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IED kills Canadian in Afghanistan

MISSION A bloody week for coalition forces in Kandahar got worse yesterday when a Canadian soldier was killed and two others injured by an improvised explosive device in the ever-hostile Panjwaii district.

Lt. Justin Boyes

Lt. Justin Garrett Boyes, 26, of 3rd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Light Infantry based in Edmonton was only 10 days into his second tour in Afghanistan when his foot patrol was struck by the blast 20 kilometres southwest of Kandahar city.

Boyes' death was the first for Canadian forces in nearly six weeks, and the 132nd since Canada's Afghan mission began in 2002.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News on the Move

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Relating pg 20

Couples and their clutter

On the web

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Raptors Bosh battles Shaq

CARLOS OSORIO/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Toronto Raptors' Chris Bosh, left, reaches for a loose ball with Cleveland Cavaliers' Shaquille O'Neal last night during Toronto's NBA regular-season opener at the Air Canada Centre. Bosh netted 21 points as the Raptors beat the Cavaliers 101-91. More coverage, page 24.

H1N1 influx

Hospitals swamped with possible swine flu cases

Flu Outbreak

Parents worried about swine flu are crowding emergency rooms in Toronto, forcing some to shut down other services to cope with a crush of new patients coming through their doors, officials said yesterday.

The Hospital for Sick Children has seen patient volumes double over the last few days, a wave that started over the weekend, hospital officials said.

More than 300 patients came through the emergency room at Sick Kids over a 24-hour period Tuesday — more than double the number of children that usually come in at this time of year, said hospital spokeswoman Suzanne Gold.

The volume of cases is similar to what they see during peak flu season, which usually comes much later in the year, said Dr. Anne Matlow, the hospital's medical director of infection prevention and control.

H1N1 is the main respiratory virus being seen in the ER, but most of the cases are mild and children are being sent home with their parents, she added.

Increase in calls

- Telehealth Ontario is also experiencing "significant increases" in calls — sometimes up to 13,000 a day — which means people are waiting longer than usual to speak to a nurse or receptionist, said a government spokesman.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MORE COVERAGE, PGS 14, 25

Grandmother arrested for parking lot crash and dash

More than a half-million people have watched a BMW SUV lurch like a monster truck on top of two other vehicles, reverse and creep slowly out of a Richmond Hill parking lot.

Now, York police say they have found — and arrested — the 62-year-old star of the viral YouTube hit titled: "Worst Parking Job Ever!"

Officers arrested the Richmond Hill grandmother yesterday and charged her with failing to remain at the scene of the crime.

VideoOnline
See the video at metronews.ca/local

In the Oct. 22 surveillance video, the dark blue BMW X5 is seen pulling slowly into a parking space at an Extreme Fitness at 8281 Yonge St.

Instead of stopping at the ankle-high concrete barrier between the two rows, the SUV speeds up and its front wheels climb well up onto the hoods of two facing cars.

The BMW then slowly reverses, stops, backs out of the stall, idles and then creeps slowly out of the camera's view.

Tripta Kaushal is charged. She is to appear in court Dec. 1.

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Local

Province set to unveil pension reform

Finance Minister Dwight Duncan, left, says Ontario will move ahead with the first part of its pension reform next month as it seeks to get the province's plans on more solid footing. Duncan says he's generally supportive of federal changes announced this week, but says Ontario will be looking at a broader package. The province's reforms will come in two stages — the first in November and the second sometime in 2010. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Tomorrow's Metro

Movie review A look at Jim Carrey's new film, A Christmas Carol.

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Read Prison consultants work to make bankers' stay in jail as cushy as possible at **metronews.ca/world**

Blogs Kenya Hunt has the solution for sprucing up your skin when dealing with a hangover.

Lotteries

Lotto 6/49: 18, 26, 32, 34, 43 & 44. Bonus 37.
Ontario 49: 1, 2, 8, 21, 32 & 42. Bonus 49.
Ontario Pick 3: 8 2 0; **Ontario Pick 4:** 6 9 3 1
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RON BULL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE PHOTO

From left: Ray Pollard, 45, retired in 2008 after more than 20 years as a police officer. Steven Correia, 42, is suspended after 23 years on the job. Richard Benoit, 38, has retired from the force. Ned Maodus, 46, has been fired from Toronto police. Joseph Miched, 51, retired from the force after 25 years. John Schertzer, 51, retired in 2007 after 29 years with the force.

Cops case going to trial

One of Canada's largest police corruption cases has been ordered to go to trial after Ontario's highest court overturned a decision to throw the case out because of years of delays.

Yesterday's Court of Appeal decision comes nearly five years after the charges were laid and 10 years since the investigation first began. The 30 corruption charges against six former members of the Toronto police drug squad were based on allegations they conducted searches without warrants, falsified notes to hide those alleged facts and didn't account for all of the money seized in drug investigations, as well as extortion and assault allegations.

The charges were stayed in January 2008 — four years after they were laid — under the prospect of a trial that wouldn't be completed until August 2008. Ontario Superior Court Justice Ian Nordheimer described that as a "glacial" pace.

The Appeal Court granted the Crown's appeal of that decision in the case against five of the officers. The court said that, in the case of those five, the delay was not unreasonable and ordered a new trial.

In the case of the sixth person, Richard Benoit, the court allowed the stay as he was only facing one charge and the court estimates his trial would have taken no more than one week. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Laying the blame

- In staying the charges Superior Court Justice Ian Nordheimer laid blame for delays on how long it took the Crown to get mountains of evidence to the defence. But the Appeal Court said the length of time was due to the complexities of the case.

Grow-ops now epidemic, Fantino says

MARIJUANA Ontario's top police officer says marijuana cultivation has reached epidemic proportions in the province.

Ontario Provincial Police Commissioner Julian Fantino says Canada is now being named as a "source country" for marijuana by the United States.

He says marijuana is exported south and traded for crystal meth and crack cocaine, which are then brought back into Canada.

Fantino says provincial police seized and destroyed more than 118,000 marijuana plants from 220 grow operations, charging 56 people during its annual eight-week marijuana eradication program — up from 10,000 plants from last year.

The force says drug dealers are moving marijuana to outdoor grow-ops, which can each produce tens of thousands of plants each. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Mother admits she tried to kill girls

COURT Sanjay Latha, 34, was severely depressed. She felt nobody would miss her. She purchased sleeping pills so she could end her sad and lonely life.

But she thought it would be unfair for her husband to be left with caring for their young daughters. So the Mississauga housewife mixed 20 sleeping pills in a pot of milk on Jan. 30 and poured some in her two-year-old daughter's baby bottle and gave her five-year-old daughter a cup of the deadly mixture. But when her older daughter started to vomit, she tried to make her two-year-old throw up as well.

A phone call to her husband led to a call to her family doctor and a 911 call ultimately saved their lives.

The chemistry major from India pleaded guilty yesterday in a Brampton courtroom to two counts of attempted murder by spiking her daughters' milk with sleeping pills.

Her daughters suffered no lasting physical injuries and are being cared for by her husband of 10 years. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Sentence

- Justice Louise Botha will sentence Latha Nov. 18.
- The Crown prosecutor is seeking a five-year prison term.
- Defence lawyers say she should be sentenced to time served. She's spent nine months in jail, an equivalent of 18 months in custody.

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Toronto agrees to new Cogeco Cable contract

Cogeco Cable has signed a 10-year, multi-million dollar deal with the City of Toronto to provide wide area network services to the city's agencies, boards, and commissions. The deal expands the Cogeco Data Services network in the Toronto area, the company said yesterday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

McGuinty rebuffs tax protesters

POLITICS As a few dozen protesters gathered at the legislature to protest Ontario's plan to harmonize sales taxes, Premier Dalton McGuinty said he hoped they will eventually come to understand the new tax is the right move.

"We knew from the outset that this would be controversial in some quarters," McGuinty said yesterday.

"These folks are always welcome here to give expression to their concern."

McGuinty made it clear, however, that no rally would change his mind about what he considers one of his key economic policies, saying the change was needed.

The Public Sector Retiree Coalition, which represents over 25,000 public sector retired employees, planned the rally outside the legislature, along with both opposition parties.

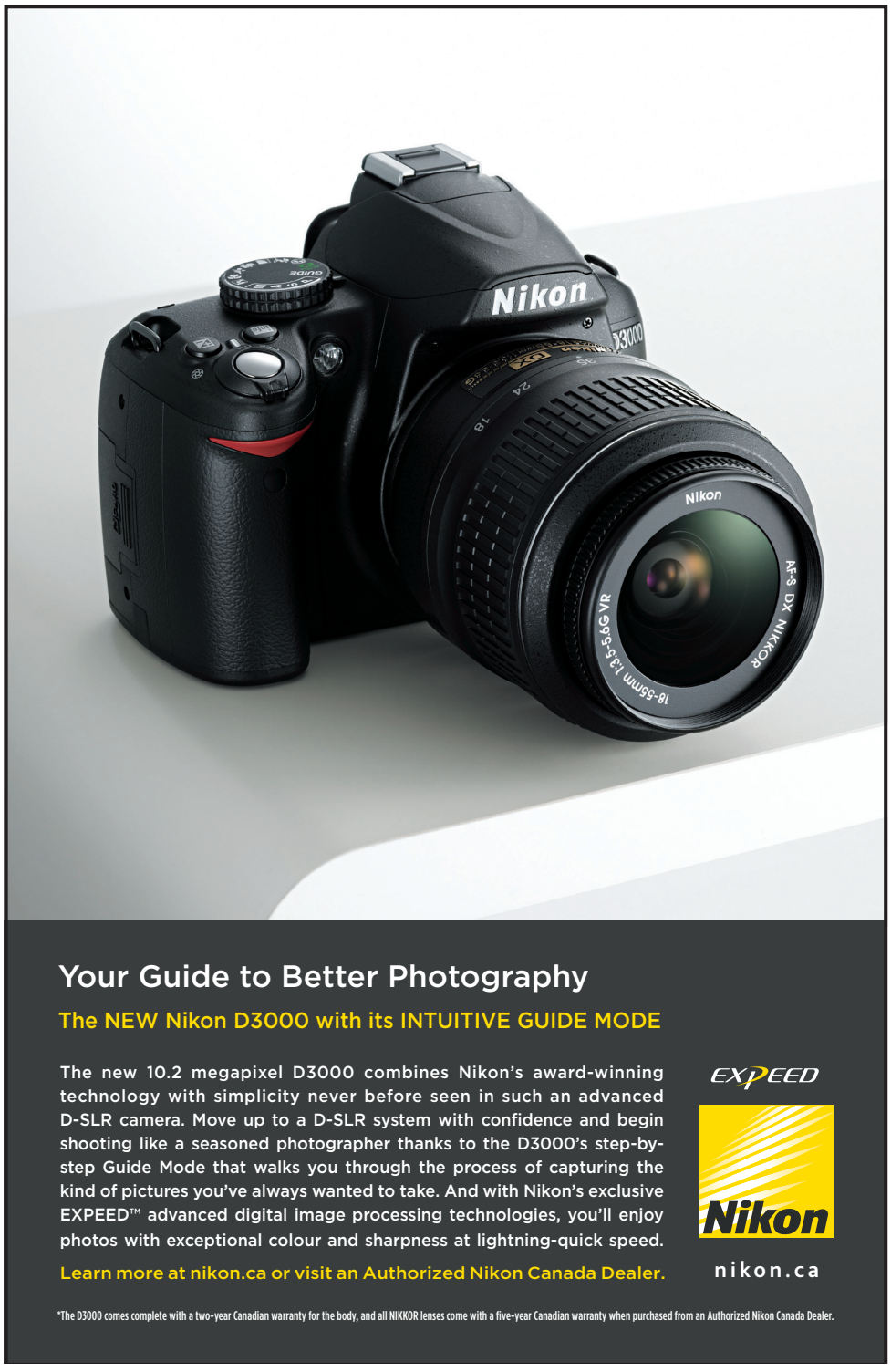
Dalton McGuinty

But the protest drew a small crowd, with just a few dozen people gathering in the rain to complain about the changes.

Jim Garchinski, a retired police officer from Hamilton and one of the rally's organizers, said the HST could end up as the largest tax increase in Ontario's history, and it won't be good for the province.

"We can't trust this government with our tax money," Garchinski said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



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TORY ZIMMERMAN/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The Ontario government responded yesterday to a report that detailed the problems at Bestech Academy by tabling fines — those fines will not apply to colleges like George Brown.

Harsh fines for college scams

Province responds to report

Private career colleges in Ontario will face fines of up to $250,000 for taking advantage of students, starting next month.

The Liberal government announced the fines in response to a critical report from the provincial ombudsman about Bestech Academy, which operated campuses in Stoney Creek and St. Catharines.

$250K

Penalties start with fines of $250 to $1,000 and with repeat offences jump to a maximum of $250,000.

Bestech Academy, which offered courses in gas technician training, closed last year leaving students and staff out of pocket.

The new penalties for private career colleges start with fines of $250 to $1,000 for first offences, and can escalate with repeat offences to a maximum of $250,000.

Colleges and Universities Minister John Milloy says the government will also appoint new provincial offences officers to inspect the 580 private career college campuses in Ontario. There will also be a public relations campaign to help students choose a government-approved private career college program before enrolling.

The fines will not apply to Ontario's community colleges, even though the ombudsman found problems at Cambrian in Sudbury and led to complaints from students at George Brown college in Toronto.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

COFFEE Toronto coffee drinkers have been given a reprieve: The city's long-awaited policy on discouraging the use of throw-away coffee cups has been put on hold. But the Ontario government has proposed new policies, ultimately designed to make the producers of many goods responsible for the cost of dumping them.

GUNS Police recovered a large arsenal of guns and ammunition from an east end apartment on Tuesday. Police recovered 58 firearms, including a machinegun, 17 handguns, 35 rifles, four shotguns and 6,000 rounds of ammunition. No charges have been laid but the investigation is ongoing.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Child struck by school bus
A five-year-old boy has been taken to Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children after being struck by a school bus in Toronto. Const. Wendy Drummond says the incident happened just after 7 a.m. yesterday, in the Kipling Avenue and Birmingham Street area. THE CANADIAN PRESS

TTC slashes capital budget

$538M in projects deferred

After more than two years of mostly good news, TTC officials announced yesterday that they are deferring 42 capital projects worth $538 million over the next 10 years.

The projects, ranging from bathroom and parking lot renovations to transit signal priority systems at intersections, won't affect service in the next two years and won't stop the construction of Transit City streetcar lines or the Spadina subway expansion.

"We've got this dichotomy here," said TTC chair Adam Giambrone. "You've got some very (big) projects that are funded and going forward and yet you have some really big challenges on the horizon."

Like the city, the TTC has two budgets. The capital budget, about $1 billion in 2010, covers the vehicles, the tracks and the buildings. The operating budget, which the TTC will begin discussing next week, covers staffing and other costs of doing business.

The TTC had no sooner approved its 10-year capital plan last month when the city asked transit officials to chop $848 million from their $1.3 billion projected capital shortfall.

That's necessary for the city to stay within its debt guidelines, said city manager Joe Pennachetti. Those guidelines help Toronto maintain its exemplary credit rating.

The city has agreed to leave the remaining $300 million for the time being.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

COLIN MCCONNELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Deputy minister of health Ron Sapsford, while being questioned at a eHealth inquiry, said yesterday he won't resign over the scandal.

Inquiry grills Sapsford on eHealth

POLITICS Ontario's embattled deputy health minister Ron Sapsford sees no reason to resign over the provincial $1 billion electronic health records scandal.

Although Health Minister David Caplan lost his job over the affair and eHealth Ontario CEO Sarah Kramer and board chair Dr. Alan Hudson resigned their positions in June, Sapsford, the health ministry's most senior bureaucrat, said he feels he does not have to go.

"I am working full-time to fulfil my responsibilities as deputy minister of health," Sapsford told reporters outside a committee hearing. "I think it is important to understand we all have different roles and I am performing mine to the best of my ability."

Sapsford, arguably one of the most powerful civil servants in Ontario, faced more questions yesterday before a committee looking into the electronic health records imbroglio that has gripped the Liberal government for months.

The scandal began this spring when details of the awarding of millions of dollars in untendered contracts emerged and the use of high-priced out-of-province consultants who billed nearly $3,000 a day, and yet expensed $1.65 cups of tea.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

City proposing new billboard tax

FUNDING A proposed new billboard tax that would raise an estimated $10.4 million a year for Toronto has sign companies seeing red.

"Alarming" was the word used by Rosanne Caron, president of the Out of Home Marketing Association of Canada.

The proposal consists of a new bylaw that would establish uniform rules across the city for legal, permanent signs, and a new billboard tax.

Rami Tabello, of Illegal-signs.ca, a local watchdog group, says his organization is "very excited" about the proposed new measures.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

INQUIRY Mississauga Council voted 7-4 to push ahead with a $2.5 million judicial inquiry into Mayor Hazel McCallion's presence in private meetings about her son's downtown land deal. More than 100 of her supporters packed council chambers to accuse councillors of conducting a witch hunt.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Southwestern Ontario hospitals limit visits

The South Bruce Grey Health Centre is limiting patient visits at all of its hospitals in southern Ontario to stop the spread of swine flu. Hospitals in Kincardine, Chesley, Walkerton and Durham will allow patients only one visitor at a time from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Meat sales have almost recovered after outbreak: Maple Leaf Foods

LISTERIA Maple Leaf Foods Inc. says it's selling nearly as much packaged meat as it was before an outbreak of listeriosis sent sales plummeting last year, and CEO Michael McCain hopes consumer confidence in the company will soon exceed its pre-outbreak levels.

McCain said yesterday that packaged meat sales volumes have rebounded to within a few percentage points of where they were before Listeria-tainted meat linked to Maple Leaf's Toronto plant left 22 people dead last year. The outbreak and subsequent product recall pushed packaged meat sales down by as much as 50 per cent.

Michael McCain

The improvement in packaged meat sales has allowed the benefits of the food processing company's restructuring, begun several quarters ago and focused primarily on its fresh meat operations, to finally shine through.

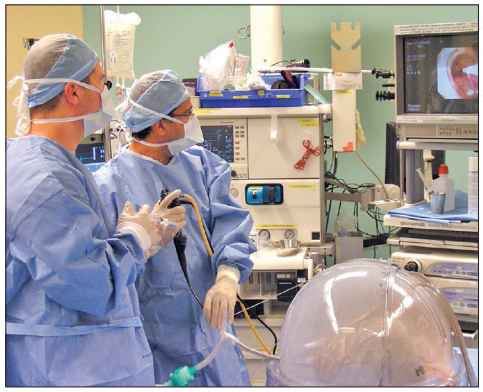
"We have made substantial progress and this, for the very first time, is making the progress of our restructuring in hog production and primary processing visible in the quarter even though this has been ramping up for much of the last 12 months," McCain said in a conference call with analysts.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian researchers pioneer lung repair

Gene therapy successfully used on damaged organs

In pioneering research, Canadian scientists have successfully used gene therapy to repair damaged lungs from deceased donors, making them potentially suitable for life-saving transplantation.



THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dr. Marcelo Cypel, left, and Dr. Shaf Keshavjee deliver gene therapy into human donor lungs using a bronchoscope.

More than 80 per cent of donor lungs are discarded because they are not healthy enough to be transplanted in a recipient, says principal researcher Dr. Shaf Keshavjee, senior scientist at the McEwen Centre for Regenerative Medicine in Toronto.

Keshavjee said the gene therapy, developed by a team at the University Health Network centre after more than 10 years of research, could potentially expand the number of viable donor lungs as well as improve the outcome for patients receiving a transplant.

"I think the exciting thing here is the proof of concept, that you can diagnose what's wrong with an organ and genetically modify the organ to work better after transplantation," he said. "So it really opens the door to personalized medicine for organs that we transplant."

The technique involves removing the lungs from a deceased donor and placing them in a special perfusion unit that pumps oxygen, nutrients and other substances into the organs, as if they were breathing inside a body.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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No charges for police after Edmonton Taser investigation

There will be no criminal charges against two Edmonton policemen in the death of a man who was hit with a stun gun as he rampaged through a pawn shop. The executive director of the Alberta Serious Incident Response Team says an 11-month investigation showed the constables were justified in their actions. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Harper headed to India, China

Prime Minister Stephen Harper is going to visit India and China. The Prime Minister's Office says Harper will travel to India Nov. 16-18 after meeting APEC leaders in Singapore. Harper's office also confirmed long-expected plans to visit China Dec. 2-6. They will be the Conservative prime minister's first trips to both countries. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Strong recovery hopes fading

'Don't expect to see booming economic growth': Analyst

Canada's economy likely grew in August, but at such a snail's pace that economists fear hopes of a substantial recovery capable of triggering job growth are fading.

After a disappointingly flat gross domestic product reading in July, most analysts believe August won't prove much better when Statistics Canada announces fresh data tomorrow.

The consensus is for a tiny 0.1 per cent gain. Some, including Carl Weinberg of High Frequency Economics, predict the first contraction since May.

And, to rub salt into the national wound, the United States is likely to report its battered economy grew by a relatively robust three per cent or more during the July-September period in figures being released today.

"Don't expect to see booming economic growth (in Canada) any time soon," said Craig Alexander, deputy chief economist with the TD Bank.

"We aren't going to have a very sharp V-shaped recovery."

Speaking to a Senate committee hearing yesterday, Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney also characterized the recovery in muted terms, emphasizing that "fragilities" remain.

0.1% A consensus estimate of the small gain made by the Canadian economy in August.

"Overall, there will be a subdued recovery, but there will be a recovery," he said.

Sluggish growth hasn't exactly come as a shock. Many have long warned that repairing the damage from the financial meltdown would take years rather than months.

Now, new data shows house sales in the U.S. unexpectedly collapsed in September, suggesting that like the Cash for Clunkers program, much of the turnaround in the U.S. has been the result of temporary government inducements.

In a report from the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives being released today, labour economist Jim Stanford argues that much the same situation exists in Canada.

Gross domestic product may have stopped falling, and even may be inching forward, but that is only because of federal and provincial stimulus spending. Take away stimulus and Canada would still be in a recession, he says.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

LEGISLATION Justice Minister Rob Nicholson says he will bring in legislation to allow judges to impose what are essentially consecutive life sentences for serial killers. Normally, a sentence for first-degree murder carries a sentence of life in prison with no parole eligibility for 25 years. Nicholson says the provision essentially means that a life sentence would mean life behind bars.

SEARCH The city of Victoria is trying to track down the family of a First World War veteran whose victory medal was found on the side of the road. A city worker found the medal last year in a cardboard box in a ditch. The name Maj. G.D. Walker is engraved on the medal, which is bronze, features the winged figure of Victory on one side and the words "The Great War for Civilization" on the back.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ottawa MP targets animal transport times

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Alexandra Mendes, MP for Brossard-La Prairie, looks into a truckload of actors dressed up as chickens yesterday as she joins the Canadian Coalition for Farm Animals, Animal Alliance of Canada and the World Society for the Protection of Animals at a news conference on Parliament Hill in Ottawa. Mendes was holding the news conference in support of her private member's bill to reduce transport times for farm animals.

Canadian terror suspect to remain in U.S. custody

CHICAGO A Canadian businessman will remain behind bars in Chicago, charged with allegedly helping to plot a terrorist attack against a Danish newspaper — the second high-profile terror arrest in the United States in recent weeks with a Canadian connection.

A Chicago judge said yesterday she needs more information before she can determine whether Tahawwur Hussain Rana, who has lived in the U.S. for almost 15 years, can be freed on bond while he awaits trial or whether he poses a serious flight risk.

U.S. authorities allege Rana provided travel services and other help to another man charged in the case, David Coleman Headley, as Headley scouted out the offices of Denmark's Jyllands-Posten newspaper for a possible terrorist attack.

The paper outraged hardline Muslims by publishing a series of cartoons in 2005 that depicted the Prophet Muhammad, something that's strictly forbidden under Islamic law.

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The latest arrest is bad news for Canada because it serves to confirm long-held suspicions among American law enforcement officials about Canadian efforts to catch potential terrorists, said one longtime observer of Canada-U.S. relations.

"The fact that we found him and he's a Canadian citizen may raise some concerns about how well Canada is monitoring the situation up there," Chris Sands, who specializes in border issues for the Washington-based Hudson Institute, said yesterday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quebec to invest almost $5B in N.B. power utility: Source

ENERGY Quebec will buy a majority stake in New Brunswick's power utility in a deal worth just less than $5 billion to be announced by premiers Jean Charest and Shawn Graham, The Canadian Press has learned.

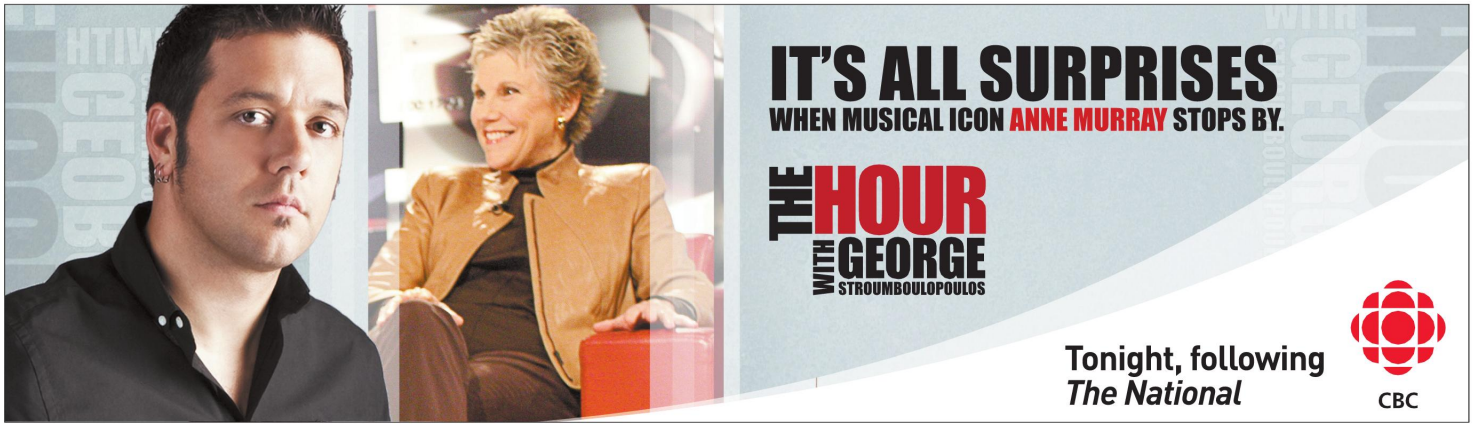
Shawn Graham

A Quebec government source confirmed the agreement will be announced at a press conference today in Fredericton.

The deal will see Hydro-Quebec shell out a bit less than $5 billion for a majority share of the neighbouring province's 89-year-old utility.

The Quebec source disputed suggestions, however, that the province might agree to take on part of NB Power's crippling $4.7-billion debt under the deal.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Winnipeg man accused of distributing child porn

A Winnipeg man is accused by police of sharing images of child pornography online. City police allege the 59-year-old suspect shared sexually explicit images of children via a social networking site with an undercover police officer from Palm Beach County, Fla., last month. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Musician killed by coyotes

Toronto singer-songwriter victim of attack in N.S. park

A young Toronto singer-songwriter who was a rising star in the folk music industry died in hospital yesterday after being mauled in a rare coyote attack in Cape Breton.

Taylor Mitchell was touring her new album on the East Coast and decided to stop off in the Cape Breton Highlands National Park for a hike before a performance scheduled last night in Sydney, N.S., her manager said.

Lisa Weitz said the 19-year-old singer was excited to take her new album on a three-week tour through the Maritimes, just after earning a Canadian Folk Music Awards nomination.

"She was absolutely pumped about her first tour on the East Coast and to take her songwriting craft to new audiences," Weitz said from Toronto. "She just had a wonderful joy of life and sharing music."

Police said Mitchell was hiking alone Tuesday when a pair of coyotes attacked her on the popular Skyline Trail in Cape Breton Highlands National Park.

Officers said other hikers heard her screams for help and rushed to her aid, calling 911 at around 3 p.m., trying to scare off the animals that are often spotted in the park.

She was taken to a hospital nearby and airlifted to a Halifax hospital in critical condition, but succumbed to her injuries yesterday.

Paul Maynard of Emergency Health Services said she was already in critical condition when paramedics arrived on the scene and was bleeding heavily from multiple bite wounds over her entire body.

"She was losing a considerable amount of blood from the wounds," he said.

RCMP spokeswoman Brigdit Leger said officers shot one of the two animals, apparently wounding it, but both managed to get away.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

HO/LW COMMUNICATIONS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Taylor Mitchell is pictured in this undated promotional photo. A rare coyote attack has claimed the life of the young folk singer-songwriter from Toronto.

Multi-lottery winner's $17M win disputed

WINNINGS It will be up to the courts to decide if a Calgary-area man's amazing run of lotto luck will continue.

Seguro Ndabene of Airdrie, just north of Calgary, has already won the lottery four times in the past five years — including two wins of $1 million, another of $100,000 and a fourth prize of $50,000.

But his biggest win of all — $17 million in a Super 7 draw in January — is being disputed. Ndabene's claim as sole winner is being questioned by a man who alleges the winning ticket was part of a group purchase.

According to court documents, Tony Koprnicky, also of Airdrie, is the brother-in-law of the woman who runs the lottery kiosk where Ndabene purchased his winning ticket.

Lawyer Adam Ailsby wrote in an affidavit on behalf of the Western Canada Lottery Corp. that Koprnicky contacted the agency to say he had been a participant "in an open group-buying agreement that was being run by the lottery kiosk in the Airdrie Co-Op store."

Ndabene's run of luck began in October 2005 when the native of Mozambique was living in Yellowknife and working for the Nishi-Khon Forestry Service. He waited eight months before claiming the $1-million prize.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Advice

- Seguro Ndabene, who has a diploma in business administration, said he had been playing the lotto for years and had no advice for other players except to wait for the machines that determine the winning numbers to make a mistake.

Liberals recruit Chretien's communication head

POLITICS Liberals are looking to veteran political handler Peter Donolo to come up with a strategy to restore the sense of momentum the federal party has seen disappear in the past several months under Michael Ignatieff.

Donolo, a 50-year-old communications specialist and former mouthpiece for Jean Chretien, will arrive in Ottawa at the end of the week to begin the salvage job on the Liberal leader's floundering inner office operation.

Heeding advice that has been heard in Liberal circles for months, Ignatieff is installing Donolo as chief of staff in place of well-liked but inexperienced loyalist Ian Davey.

TOM HANSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Then-prime minister Jean Chretien talks with his communications director Peter Donolo in this 1999 file photo.

Liberal MPs, who have recently watched their poll standing nosedive, expressed relief at the prospect of having a seasoned person at the controls. "We feel like a fever is broken," said London MP Glen Pearson. "But we're still on the mend. We've got a long way to go."

Donolo, who in the 1990s helped guide Chretien from struggling opposition leader to a popular three-term prime minister, is widely seen as one of the most savvy strategists on the Canadian scene.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

"We feel like a fever is broken."
Glen Pearson, MP

Greyhound to stay in Manitoba

TRANSIT Greyhound has backed off its threat to end service in Manitoba thanks to a promise of government subsidies.

The company issued a statement yesterday saying it is working on a deal with the province that will allow bus service to continue. Greyhound had threatened to stop service across Manitoba as of next week, saying it was losing money because of reduced ridership.

Transportation Minister Ron Lemieux says bus service is simply too important to rural and northern communities to lose. He says the province has agreed to provide annual subsidies to Greyhound, but also warns some service will be reduced.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

$4M Greyhound claims it is losing $4 million per year in Manitoba.

News in brief

TORTURE A special House of Commons committee will conduct a wide investigation into the handling of Afghan prisoners — including whether senior officials knew about the risk of torture in Kandahar jails and whether there was an attempted coverup.

ICE CREAM Chapman's workers will be once again churning out ice cream today in Markdale, Ont. Company president Penny Chapman says they will start their first production line in town since a fire destroyed their plant Sept. 4.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Man arrested in connection to Winnipeg bathhouse fire

Winnipeg police have made an arrest in a deadly fire at a bathhouse. Justin James Rosdobutko, 25, has been charged with two counts of manslaughter. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Biker slaying trial goes to jury

After hearing from more than 70 witnesses over six months, a jury began the onerous task yesterday of deciding the fates of six men accused in what's believed to be Ontario's largest mass slaying.

The bloodied bodies of eight men linked to the Toronto chapter of the Bandidos biker gang were found on April 8, 2006, stuffed into four vehicles abandoned by a farmer's field in southwestern Ontario.

The scene was just kilometres away from the farmhouse of one of the accused, Wayne Kellestine, where the slaughter is alleged to have taken place.

The Crown alleges the grisly find was the result of rising tensions between the dead men and the probationary Bandidos chapter in Winnipeg and a desire by all of the six men now charged with their deaths to rise through the ranks of the biker gang.

Kellestine, Michael Sandham, Dwight Mushey, Marcelo Aravena, Brett Gardiner and Frank Mather have all pleaded not guilty to eight counts each of first-degree murder. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Change of plans

- The Crown contends the plan that night was for Wayne Kellestine and the others to strip the rest of the Toronto men of their gang affiliation and form the new Canadian Bandidos chapter themselves, but at some point the plan changed to mass murder.

PETER POWER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

In this 2006 photo, forensics investigators search for evidence at Wayne Kellestine's farm, where an alleged slaughter of eight men took place.

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Bear bell provider rings alarm

VANCOUVER 2010 Games

OLYMPICS A B.C. company that has inked a licensing deal with Vancouver Games organizers to provide official Olympic bear bells is ringing the alarm after one of the 2010 host First Nations unveiled a similar item.

Vancouver-based RC Products has signed on to supply articles like bells, keychains, wallets and bags for the 2010 Games.

But president Rory Carr says he's concerned that promotional bear bells unveiled by the Squamish First Nation and Spirit of BC Committee could hurt sales.

Carr says RC Products had hoped to sell 10,000 bells before the First Nation and committee unveiled theirs. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

AIRCRAFT The purchase of four Bombardier waterbombers in exchange for aerospace investments is a "win-win" deal for Newfoundland and Labrador, says Premier Danny Williams. He announced yesterday the province will buy the new Bombardier 415 amphibious aircraft to replace four of its current fleet of six aging CL-215 waterbombers. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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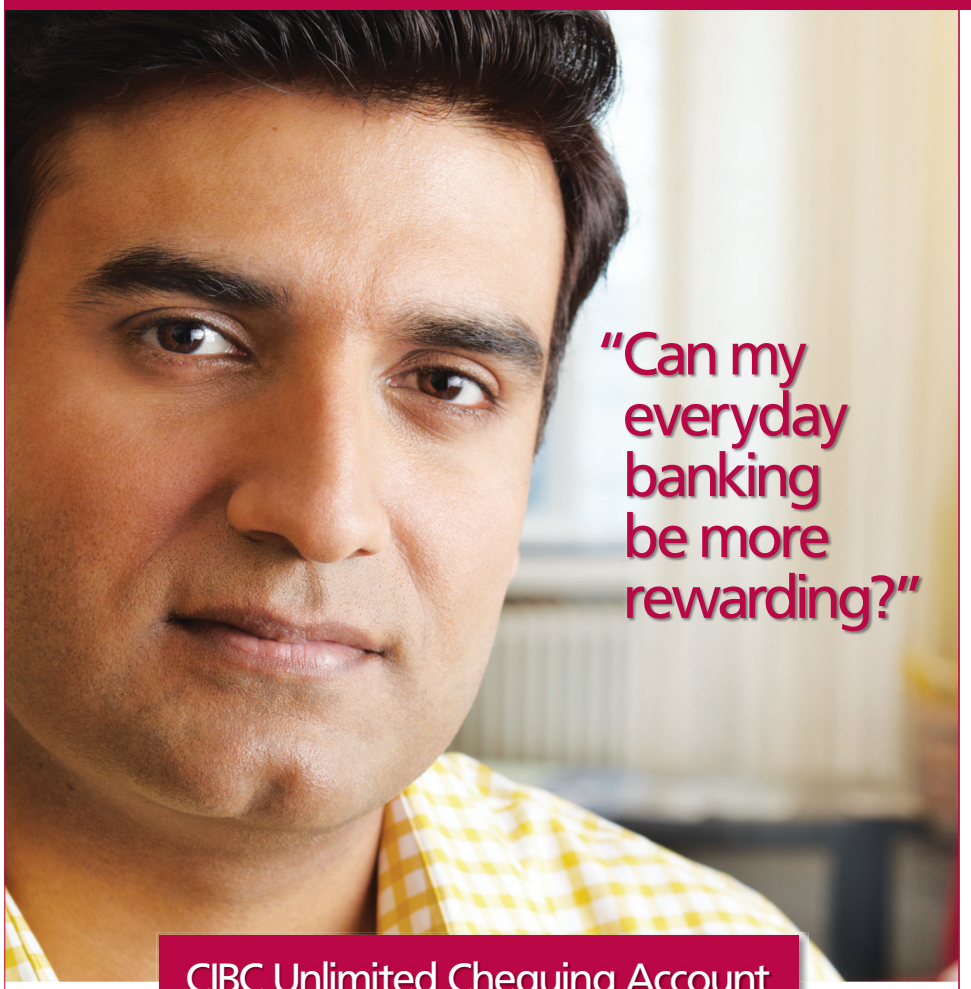

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Crash sends four to hospital

A two-vehicle crash north of London, Ont., Tuesday sent four people to hospital with serious injuries. Two others had minor injuries. Police say a car went through a stop sign and collided with a pickup truck pulling a cattle trailer in Middlesex Centre. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Swine flu wave travelling eastward across country

Flu **Outbreak**

Swine flu is surging across Canada, with Ontario and Quebec now starting to catch up to the hard-hit western provinces, said the country's chief public health officer yesterday.

"There is increasing activity (in Ontario and Quebec)," said Dr. David Butler-Jones. "And certainly, in the West, the vast majority of the positive tests … are coming up with H1, which suggests that over the last two weeks we're starting to see an important increase.

"We're definitely in the next wave now."
David Butler-Jones, chief public health officer

"We're definitely in the next wave now."

Overall flu activity has been steadily increasing for several weeks, particularly in B.C., Alberta, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories.

A swine flu outbreak that began in B.C.'s Lower Mainland has been creeping north for several weeks now, Butler-Jones said. The Prairie provinces are also seeing an uptick.

A health region in southeastern Saskatchewan has opened a flu assessment site to ease the burden the virus is putting on emergency rooms. One hospital in the province has even been forced to postpone elective procedures and surgeries as it copes with the crush of people with flu-like illnesses.

Meanwhile, Manitoba is seeing a huge uptake of the swine flu vaccine, with almost 40,000 people being vaccinated in 48 hours, health officials said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Don't travel when sick, health authorities say

Flu **Outbreak**

PUBLIC HEALTH People who are feeling ill should postpone travel plans and stay off planes, trains, buses and ferries, federal health officials said yesterday.

And travel staff can help quell the spread of the H1N1 flu virus by keeping a lookout for ill passengers and washing hands frequently, they add.

To encourage sick people to stay home, Health Minister Leona Aglukkaq called on the travel industry to "allow Canadians to easily rebook their travel plans if they get ill."

Those who can't cancel travel when ill should consider driving instead of flying or taking a train or bus, said Dr. David Butler-Jones, chief public officer of health.

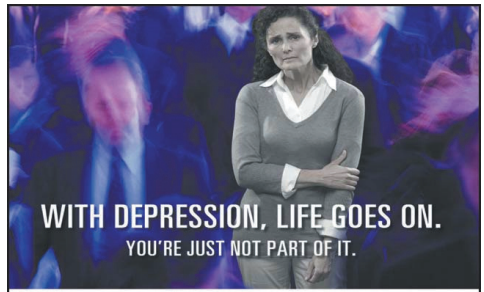
Aglukkaq

Guidelines issued by health officials to travel companies include cleaning public surfaces regularly and providing proper hand-washing facilities for passengers and crews.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

THRIFT The government of Premier Darrell Dexter has withdrawn another perk for Nova Scotia politicians. The legislature's internal economy board has voted to discontinue a $200,000 public fund for technological purchases. The money was used by members to buy technology considered essential to their jobs, such as computers and cellphones. Speaker Charlie Parker says each member spent an average of $2,500 from the fund. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Germany will deploy Israeli unmanned spy planes in Afghanistan
Israel Aerospace Industries says it will supply the German air force with unmanned Heron spy planes that will be deployed on reconnaissance missions in northern Afghanistan early next year. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Go, go, go Ares

NASA's newest rocket, the Ares I-X, blasted off from Cape Canaveral, Fla., on a brief test flight yesterday, taking the first step in a back-to-the-moon program that could yet be shelved by the White House. The 100-metre rocket's liftoff had been delayed a day by bad weather. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

No mercy for women, children

Car bomb kills 100 in Pakistan

Carnage and grief visited Pakistan yet again yesterday as a car bomb devastated a busy market.

One hundred people — mostly women and children — were killed and more than 200 wounded in Peshawar.

The blast destroyed buildings and a mosque, and set scores of shops ablaze in the Mina Bazaar.

The wounded sat amid burning debris and parts of bodies.

"There was a deafening sound and I was like a blind man for a few minutes," said Mohammad Usman.

"I heard women and children crying and started to help others.

"There was the smell of human flesh in the air."

"This fight is not Pakistan's alone."
Hillary Clinton

Crying for help, men tried to pull survivors from beneath wreckage.

One man carried away a baby with a bloody face.

A two-story building collapsed as firefighters doused it with water, triggering more panic.

The government blamed Islamic militants seeking to avenge an army offensive — and visiting U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton pledged U.S. support.

"I want you to know this fight is not Pakistan's alone," Clinton said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MOHAMMAD IQBAL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Flames devour market shops in Peshawar, Pakistan, after a deadly car bomb exploded.

News in brief

EMBARGO The UN General Assembly yesterday overwhelmingly condemned the 47-year U.S. trade embargo on Cuba. The vote was 187-3, with only Israel and the Pacific island nation of Palau supporting the United States.

PIRACY European naval forces captured seven Somali pirates after they tried to take over a French fishing vessel off Somalia. The naval flotilla also searched for a British yachting couple believed captured.

SHOWER France's government has denied a claim it spent nearly $370,000 to build a shower for President Nicolas Sarkozy. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Travel Dec 20 - Dec 25/c6/ts + taxes & fees $244

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INCLUDES Manhattan accom. Departs Nov 20/ggv/aa. ADD transfers for $40.

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California Air + Car $499
+ taxes & fees $149
INCLUDES air to San Franciso with return from San Diego and 7-day car rental. Departs Nov 17/ggv/aa. ADD Napa & Sonoma Valley Wine Explorer Pass for $59

Essential Egypt 8-Day Tour $559^
Essential Egypt + local payment USD180
HIGHLIGHTS Cairo, Aswan and Luxor plus excursions to Abu Simbel, Valley of the Kings, Karnak Temple and the East Bank. Departs Nov 22/tdk.

Honolulu Air + 7 Nights $999
Ohana Waikiki West + taxes & fees $117
INCLUDES Waikiki accom. Departs Nov 18/ggv/aa. ADD transfers for $32.

All-inclusive Holidays

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Oasis Brisas Santa Lucia + taxes & fees $205
Departs Oct 30/nol/ts/5g.

Varadero 7 Nights 4-Star $375
Oasis Turquesa + taxes & fees $210
Departs Oct 30/swg/wg.

Holguin 7 Nights 4-Star $425
Blau Costa Verde Beach Resort + taxes & fees $210
Departs Nov 3/swg/wg.

Punta Cana 7 Nights 4-Star $475
Blau Natura Park + taxes & fees $320
Departs Nov 3/swg/wg.

Puerto Vallarta 7 Nights 4-Star $497
Royal Decameron Complex + taxes & fees $272
Departs Nov 5/vat/ts.

Puerto Plata 7 Nights 4-Star $537
Grand Paradise Playa Dorada + taxes & fees $320
Departs Nov 5/nol/5g.

Panama 7 Nights 4.5-Star $595
Breezes Panama Resort and Spa + taxes & fees $220
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Car Insurance Roadblock

Consumers concerned insurers don't want drivers with tickets or accidents

Worried Your Spotted Driving Record Means You've Got Nowhere To Turn For Car Insurance?

Don't be. While it's true that, all things being equal, your tickets and accidents make you a more expensive risk to insure than a similar car and driver with a clean driving record, that doesn't mean you should have trouble finding insurance – assuming you know where to look. Different insurance companies target different types of business and this is reflected in things like their claims service, marketing efforts, discounts, and most importantly for you, their rates.

Can Some Insurance Companies Simply Refuse to Insure Some Drivers?

No. Since insurance companies have to file their rules and rates with the Financial Services Commission of Ontario (FSCO) they can only refuse drivers if they fall outside of the rules sent to FSCO. But what they *can* do is market themselves and set their rates such that they are more competitive for consumers they wish to attract (and, yes, less competitive for consumers they don't wish to attract). The result is that rates charged by different insurance companies to insure the same driver, with the same car, for the same coverage, can vary by hundreds and even thousands of dollars. Take a look at the table below.

Should I Just Accept That I'll Have To Pay A Bundle?

No. Sadly, this is a mistake many drivers make and it can be a costly one, especially if they don't bother to shop around for the lowest rate available. The key to finding the best rate, especially if you have tickets or accidents on your driving record, is to figure out which insurance company of the more than 30 in Ontario has the best rate for your particular situation. And with rates varying so wildly across companies, chances are you are not with the company that has the lowest rate for your profile right now.

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Rate Comparison

Driving Record	Lowest Price	Highest Price	Price Difference
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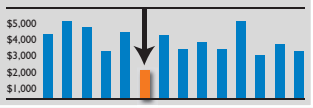
1 Ticket	$1,018	$2,552	$1,534
1 Accident	$1,849	$3,753	$1,904

InsuranceHotline.com finds this rate for drivers – for FREE!



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Karzai's brother denies CIA paid him

Ahmed Wali Karzai, brother of the Afghan president, denies reports he got regular payments from the CIA for eight years. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mona Lisa **Hopefully, Luke won't make her frown**

MARTIN RICKETT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Eight-year-old Luke Wharton-Jones runs across a replica of the Mona Lisa, said to be the largest of its kind, during a photo call at a shopping centre in Wrexham, England, yesterday.

Canada lashes Taliban

Attacks on Kabul guest house and hotel kill 11

Canada lashed out at the Taliban yesterday after deadly attacks on a United Nations guest house and a five-star hotel in Kabul.

The attacks killed at least 11 people.

At least nine people were injured, including a Canadian citizen.

"These cowardly acts will not deter (us)."
Lawrence Cannon

The attacks with guns and rockets come less than two weeks before the second round of voting in Afghanistan election.

"These cowardly acts ... will not deter the international community from supporting Afghans as they exercise their right to vote," said Foreign Affairs Minister Lawrence Cannon. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Protesters dump coal at Sweden's HQ
Climate activists from Greenpeace dumped 18 tons of coal in front of the Swedish government's headquarters yesterday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Strike held to protest massacre

GUINEA Tens of thousands of workers in Guinea went on strike yesterday to mark the one-month anniversary of a massacre in which troops fatally shot pro-democracy demonstrators and raped women in broad daylight, officials and workers said.

Meanwhile, organizers said that dozens of people were going on a five-day hunger strike to protest the Sept. 28 violence in the West African nation.

"I am tired, I am ashamed of what the women underwent at the stadium," said participant Halimatou Barry.

"It is atrocious ... It is necessary that justice is done."

Most of the capital's private businesses, shops and government offices were closed as part of the general strike yesterday.

Opposition member Mohamed Camara estimated that only 3,000 of some 97,000 government workers reported to work yesterday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

More arrests in gang rape

Attack sparks widespread outrage

Three more people have been arrested in connection with the gang rape and beating of a 15-year-old girl outside her high school homecoming dance in an attack that has generated widespread outrage.

A man and two boys were arrested late Tuesday, including 21-year-old Salvador Rodriguez and two teens, 16 and 17. They were each booked on one count of gang rape and likely face other charges including robbery and kidnapping.

"These are people who played a significant role in the incident," Police Lt. Mark Gagan said Wednesday. "I'm confident that more arrests will be made."

The arrests bring to five the number of people taken into custody in the attack that occurred Saturday night at Richmond High School.

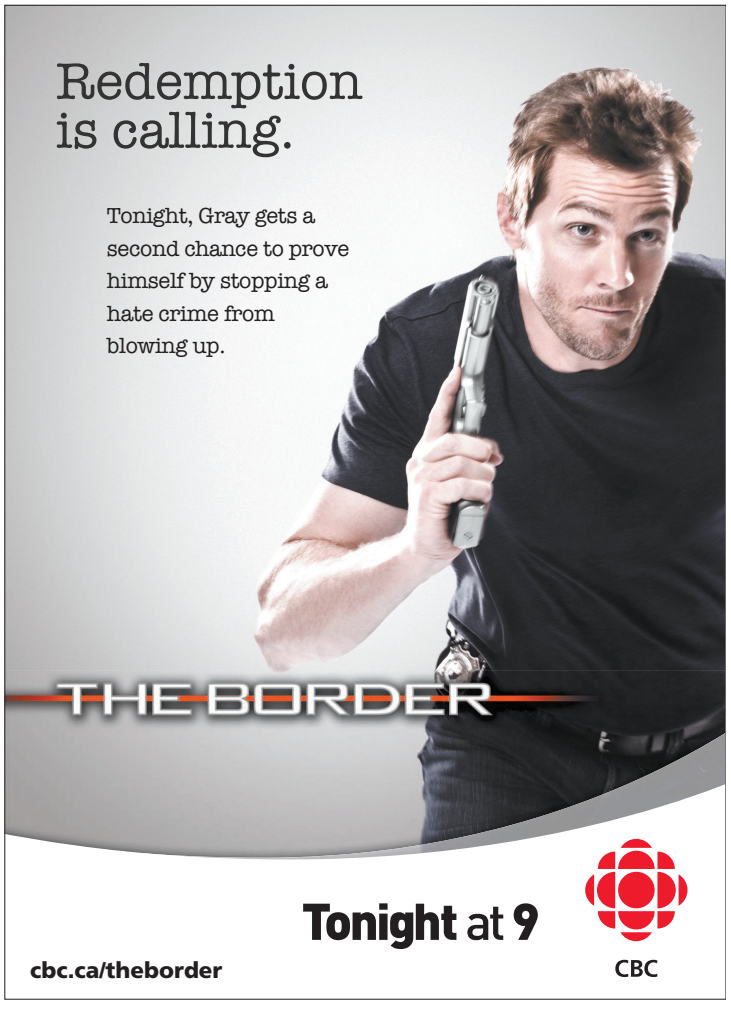
Victim

- The victim, a sophomore, had left the dance and was drinking alcohol in a school courtyard with a group when she was attacked, police said.
- Officers found the girl semiconscious and naked from the waist down near a picnic table. She remains hospitalized with non-life threatening injuries.

The attacks and its aftermath have rattled Richmond, Calif., a crime-ridden city of about 120,000 in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Police believe as many as 10 people ranging in age from 15 to mid-20s attacked the girl for more than two hours at a dimly lit area near benches Saturday night. As many as two dozen people saw the rape without notifying police."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Comment

Couples and their 'stuff'

Relating

It's not the most romantic of impulses, but the economic cold snap of the past year has increased the temptation for couples to huddle together and split the rent.

It seems like a good idea on the face of it, taking the relationship to that mythic "next level," simplifying the logistics of life and all that. There is, however, the matter of your respective baggage, and here I refer only to the physical stuff. Two peoples' possessions must somehow be combined into one place.

George Carlin famously pointed out that a house is nothing but a place to keep your stuff. He also noted that while your stuff is simply called "stuff," someone else's is generally referred to with one of his (pre-HBO) Seven Words You Can Never Say On Television.

This distinction is much on my mind now, here in the middle of Operation Shack-Up. A stack of boxes packed with deferred decisions looms in our bedroom. We have earnest conversations about shelving and storage. I worry about resentment of my stuff growing into resentment of me.

I have many unspoken questions. Where are we going to keep all my CDs? (And why, as an adult male, do I own so many friggin' CDs?)

The accumulated detritus of two lives will always take up too much space and threaten the domestic peace. We're both what are vaguely called "knowledge workers." In practice, it means we've got more books than shelves, and our living room, with three computers, now slightly resembles a call centre.

As a veteran of many moves and many apartments, the solution, when in doubt, is to pitch it out. Every time you move, you must justify lugging that box of old magazines one more time or finally give it the heave.

Mercifully, last weekend was Give Away Weekend in Ottawa, when the citizenry are encouraged to put their "gems" and "treasures" out on the curb to see if anyone else wants them. Reduce, reuse, unload your crap on the unsuspecting. Good stuff.

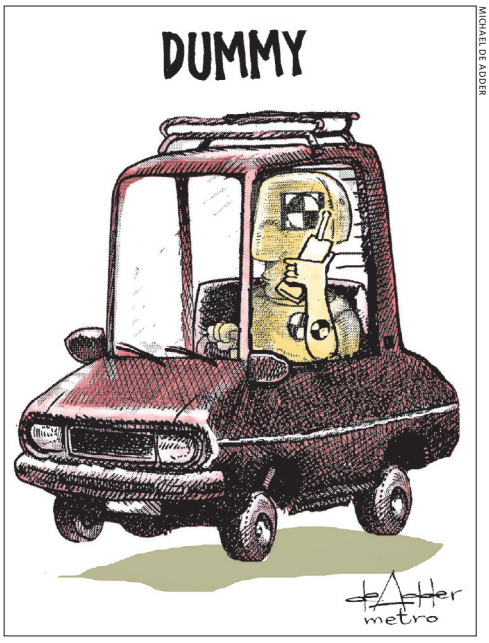
Somehow, though, amidst all this out-with-the-old, you absurdly end up shopping for new stuff, joining all those glum, strained couples at Ikea in navigating that fiendishly designed Swedish merchandise maze for more clutter.

All these stuff-related trials, though, can perhaps be seen as tests of your ability to compromise, revealing either what junk you're willing to live with, or what prized possessions you're willing to throw away, in order to be together.

On the web

- For more views on relating, go to Love Bytes at metronews.ca/blogs

Steve Collins offers his best guesses on relationships for Metro every two weeks.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

Views

Awareness month more than a colour

FourthWave

These days, everything but the leaves is turning Pepto pink, a reminder that it is Pinktober, or Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

The retina-assaulting shade is everywhere: On KitchenAid mixers, Wonderbras, Dyson vacuum cleaners, toilet paper and lipstick.

It's no surprise breast cancer became a corporate pet cause — pink products target women, who have buying power and a warranted fear of the disease. It attacks the female identity — it is a trauma to lose an intrinsic part of your womanhood, motherhood and sexuality. The colour is equally loaded — pink symbolizes femininity and calm; co-opting the colour is a glib way to acknowledge the Big C without actually acknowledging it as the body-destroying curse it is.

Pink sales encourage people to act charitably, but according to the fine print, it's corporations that can benefit more than any foundation or cancer patient. Commonly, companies pass on a small percentage of sales (from five to 15 per cent), or, as Hershey's Bliss chocolates pledges in the States, donate a paltry $300,000 US rather than take away from profits.

In a case that's the current target of the Breast Cancer Action's Think Before You Pink campaign, pharmaceutical giant Eli Lily makes rBGH — an artificial hormone given to dairy cows that increases people's risks of cancer — but also produces cancer drugs. Last year, BMW donated $1 US for every mile on a test drive of its carcinogen-spewing cars to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

I'm not some tinfoil hat-wearing cancer grinch; I have a pessimism that comes only from witnessing family members fight cancer. My dad's sinus cancer is in remission; his sister is fighting the same type of cancer; another aunt survived breast cancer; my sister has had two breast cancer scares.

Something is awry when cutesy ribbons eclipse what cancer does to someone physically and emotionally. It's a further insult that consumer dollars pay companies and not prevention programs.

There isn't a person in the Western world that isn't "aware" of breast cancer. Companies should retire their token gestures and marketing campaigns — the money is better spent supporting patients, preventing environmental exposure to carcinogens, or encouraging healthy lifestyles (that's why I cheer on the Run for the Cure).

Better yet, give your $400 directly to an organization and forgo the pink mixer altogether. You can't match Pepto to a kitchen anyway.

Canice Leung is a former editor of Ryerson University feminist magazine McClung's, copy editor at Metro, ardent feminist and loudmouth.

Worth mentioning

Trick-or-treat, smell my feet not good manners

Trick-or-treaters beware: Manners count — even on Halloween.

Britain's authority on etiquette, Debrett's, issued its first guidance yesterday on how to behave during the über-North American holiday.

Although the holiday originated with Europe's Celtic pagans to mark the end of summer, it has only been recently that British stores have swelled with Halloween stock and trick-or-treaters have canvassed streets for candy.

"Good manners are very important," said Jo Bryant, etiquette adviser for Debrett's. "There has been a growing presence of Halloween over the past five years and we're receiving many more queries on how to behave."

Common questions are: Is it acceptable not to open one's doors to trick-or-treaters? How many times should children be allowed to ring a door bell before moving on? And can one forego a Halloween costume at a party?

Debrett's has posted its advice to the etiquette-challenged on its website (debretts.com).

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10% The number of Canadians who are aware of a spirit or ghost living in their house or residence.

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Analyst sees General Motors posting sales gain
A top General Motors sales analyst says the automaker is likely to post its first year-over-year monthly sales gain in October. Mike DiGiovanni says GM also should see its market share increase for the third month despite shedding the Pontiac, Saturn, Saab and Hummer brands. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Business

DOLLAR	GAS	OIL	TSX
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US 1.08¢	US 27¢	US $2.09	248.21

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

TMX says revenue hit by slowdown

EARNINGS TMX Group Inc., operator of Canada's main stock exchanges in Toronto and Montreal, cited the economic slowdown among other reasons for a $9-million reduction in third-quarter revenue and net income yesterday.

Third-quarter earnings were $41.7 million or 56 cents a share, down from $50.9 million in the year-ago period. Revenue was $130.2 million, down from $139.2 million. The TMX board declared a dividend of 38 cents a share.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Newell Cost cuts boost profit

SETH PERLMAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Newell Rubbermaid Inc., which makes storage containers, Sharpie pens and Calphalon cookware, said yesterday that cost-control efforts and its decision to stop making some of its less-profitable products helped push its third-quarter profit higher even as sales declined.

Merchants cry foul over new Visa debit

Merchants and small business owners have received letters from the country's largest payment processor advising them they will be automatically enrolled in the new Visa debit program unless they take action to opt out.

Small business leaders are outraged and likened the tactic to negative optioning, saying it is one of several complaints they're hearing about the way the new Visa product is being introduced into Canada's $168-billion debit market.

"These seem like incredibly murky and unfair business practices," said Dan Kelly, vice-president with the Canadian Federation of Independent Business, referring to the letter from Moneris Solutions advising them the new microchip enabled payment terminals the merchants had installed were also equipped to handled Visa debit. The merchant is then asked to call or go online if they want to decline the new Visa debit service.

Moneris says it has no choice but to offer its merchant customers the option of opting out, since the way Visa designed the network both Visa's credit and debit products are bundled together.

Visa Canada confirmed the new terminals come equipped to handle Visa debit, but it wants merchants to have the choice whether to accept it or not.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Debit charges

- Merchants currently pay a flat fee of six cents per transaction on average to process debit cards issued by the Interac Association.
- Visa Canada plans to charge merchants 0.25 per cent of the value of the transaction, plus 15 cents.
- MasterCard says it will charge less than Interac.

Court clears Nortel to sell off another bit of the company

ASSETS Nortel Networks Corp. has received a green light from Canadian bankruptcy courts on the sale of its next-generation packet core network component assets to Japanese electronics manufacturer Hitachi Ltd. for $10 million US.

Included in the deal is software supporting data transfer over existing wireless networks and next-generation wireless technology and the non-exclusive licence of some patents and other intellectual property.

The sale does not include legacy packet core components for Nortel's third-generation Universal Mobile Telecommunications System (UMTS) and Global System for Mobile (GSM) businesses.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Open auction

- The company plans to sell its global GSM/GSM-R business, including the patents predominantly used in the GSM business and granting of non-exclusive licences of other relevant patents, in an open auction.

Chinese miner backs out of deal

MINING Toronto-based miner Tiomin Resources Inc. says the Chinese metals producer that was to buy 70 per cent of its Kenyan subsidiary and the help fund development of the Kwale mineral sands project has backed out of the deal. The news knocked about 28 per cent off the value of Tiomin's shares in heavy trading, reducing the company's market value by about $3 million

Tiomin said it is seeking clarification from Jinchuan Group, one of China's biggest mining companies. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business in brief

AUTOS Ford Motor Co. has picked a consortium led by China's Geely Group as the preferred bidder to buy its Swedish Volvo Cars unit, the U.S. automaker said yesterday. The announcement means both sides have reached a fundamental agreement to sell the storied brand, but details such as price still must be worked out, says a person briefed on the negotiations. Ford bought Volvo in 1999 for $6.45 billion US from Volvo AB, and for 10 years the companies shared safety and other technology. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Ronaldo to miss Champs League action

Cristiano Ronaldo will not be able to play in Real Madrid's Champions League match at AC Milan next week due to an ankle injury. The Spanish club said a medical exam performed yesterday showed the Portugal winger's right ankle had improved, but not enough to return to action. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports

Luongo out

Roberto Luongo, left, will miss at least the next two Vancouver Canucks games after suffering a hairline fracture in one of his ribs. The goaltender isn't sure how long he'll be out. Luongo was hurt during Saturday's 3-1 win over the Toronto Maple Leafs, when a shot from the corner caught him through a soft spot in his padding.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

EDITOR: CHRIS.CLEMENTS@METRONEWS.CA

Sports in brief

ENGLAND Police are searching for a Manchester United fan who bit off part of a man's ear at the Champions League final in Rome. Greater Manchester Police made the appeal yesterday, releasing video footage and still pictures.

MARADONA Argentina's Football Association says the media is to blame for Diego Maradona's angry tirade on live television. The AFA sent a formal report to FIFA dismissing Maradona's profanity-laced news conference in Uruguay as the natural result of tough questions from reporters.

LOS ANGELES Dodgers owner Frank McCourt filed papers yesterday opposing his wife's demand to be reinstated as the team's chief executive, citing insubordination and an affair she allegedly had with her bodyguard. The documents were submitted one day after Jamie McCourt filed divorce papers seeking to regain her US$2 million-a-year job.

GOLF The LPGA Tour picked Michael Whan as its new commissioner, turning to a former marketing executive in golf and hockey equipment to rebuild the tour's relationships with sponsors. The 44-year-old previously worked for TaylorMade Golf and Wilson Sporting Goods and most recently was president of Mission-Itech Hockey. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Bargnani leads Raps to win

Toronto takes home opener over Lebron and the Cavaliers

NBA RESULT

Cleveland 91 **Toronto** 101

In a season of new beginnings, the Toronto Raptors couldn't have asked for a better start.

Andrea Bargnani scored 28 points to lead the new-look Raptors to a 101-91 victory over the Cleveland Cavaliers in their season opener yesterday.

Chris Bosh added 21 points and 16 rebounds, while Hedo Turkoglu finished with 12 points, Marco Belinelli added 10 and Jose Calderon finished with 11 assists to go with five points for Toronto (1-0).

LeBron James topped the Cavs (0-2) with 23 points, 12 assists and 11 boards, marking the 25th triple-double of his career. Mo Williams added 16 points, while former Raptor Anthony Parker and off-season acquisition Shaquille O'Neal finished with 12 points apiece.

The Raptors' 15th NBA season tipped off with team introductions to a stirring live performance from Toronto Philharmonia at centre court, and the game itself certainly lived up to all the hype.

The game marked the first real test of a team that has nine new faces on its roster this season, rebuilt in the off-season after winning just 33 games last season. But it was the Cavs who looked discombobulated for much of the night in front of a capacity crowd at the Air Canada Centre.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Future uncertain for Impact, 'Caps

USL The Vancouver Whitecaps FC are expected to announce within the next month whether they will start their own league or return to the United Soccer Leagues for another season.

The 'Caps, who are joining Major League Soccer for the 2011 season, are looking at forming their own league for 2010 with the Team Owners Association (TOA) — a group of USL teams that includes the Montreal Impact.

"We're trying to set up our own league and that process is still ongoing," said Bob Lenarduzzi, the Whitecaps' president.

"The thing that we'd like to make clear is that we will be playing ... next year." METRO CANADA

World Series Feeling the pressure

JIM MCISAAC/GETTY IMAGES

It took New York's C.C. Sabathia 24 pitches to retire the Philadelphia Phillies in the first inning of Game 1 of the World Series last night at Yankee Stadium in New York. For a complete recap of the game, visit metronews.ca/sports

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Ballesteros recovering
Seve Ballesteros says his latest medical checks show his recovery from brain cancer is going well. Ballesteros, who won three British Open and two Masters titles, is attending the World Match Play Championship at Finca Cortesin golf course in Spain this weekend. He won the event a record five times. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Leafs Dancing with the Stars

TONY GUTIERREZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Toronto Maple Leafs centre Mikhail Grabovski, left, challenges Dallas Stars right wing Toby Petersen (17) and defenceman Stephane Robidas (3) for control of the puck in the first period of last night's game in Dallas. Dallas won 4-3 in overtime. **For a complete game recap, visit metronews.ca/sports**

NHL catches H1N1 flu bug

The National Hockey League is watching the progression of H1N1 cases among its players, but at this point sees no need for special measures to help prevent spread of the illness.

The Washington Capitals confirmed yesterday that forward Quintin Laing is being treated for H1N1, making him at least the third NHL player to be diagnosed with it.

On Tuesday, cases were confirmed for Edmonton Oilers defenceman Ladislav Smid and Colorado Avalanche goalie Peter Budaj. New York Islanders forward Doug Weight returned to the lineup yesterday after missing three games with H1N1.

"We have been regularly providing our clubs with updated information and recommendations as they become available," the NHL said in a statement released to The Canadian Press. "We have not mandated specific precautions or courses of action. The league is monitoring the progression of the flu, but have implemented no specific 'contingency plans' at this point in time. However, we will be prepared to do so should it become necessary."

The Capitals said no other players have shown symptoms of the swine flu and that Laing is being kept away from the rest of the team. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Flu Outbreak

Woman in alleged sex-for-tickets scheme still hopes to see a game

BASEBALL A Philadelphia woman charged with offering sex for World Series tickets says she's embarrassed about her arrest, but did nothing wrong and is still hopeful of attending a game.

"I didn't do anything wrong, so I'm not embarrassed about my actions. I'm embarrassed about how I was arrested," Susan Finkelstein said yesterday, a day after meeting at a suburban bar with an undercover police officer responding to an ad on Craigslist.

Finkelstein's lawyer said his client is merely "a nice lady overcome with Phillies fever."

She might have dropped double entendres in her Craigslist ad, but never explicitly offered sex, her lawyer William J. Brennan said.

The 43-year-old University of Pennsylvania graduate student wanted to take her husband to a game between her beloved Philadelphia Phillies and the New York Yankees. The self-described "buxom blonde" said she was simply trying to score tickets online, as she had in the past.

Over a few beers at a suburban bar, she told a police officer she needed two tickets, one for herself and one for her husband. No price had been discussed, and Finkelstein and her lawyer stopped short of recounting specifics of what was said before several officers sitting at a nearby table came to arrest her.

Brennan hopes to get the misdemeanour charge of promoting prostitution dismissed. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Metro Homes

It's who you are

Homes are reflecting personal style more, just as clothes do. "... Your house is a story. Think of it as a narrative and you are the author," says Keith Johnson, host of Man Shops Globe and buyer-at-large for Anthropologie.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA

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Left: The bridge at Humber Bay Park. Right: A condo development near Humber Bay Shores.

ALL PHOTOS RAFAEL BRUSILOW/FOR METRO CANADA

Serene, eclectic, vibrant Mimico

Community nestled in the corner of Etobicoke offers history and personality

Mimico & Humber Bay Shores
Spaces & **Places**

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

Charming and full of character, Mimico is a community with spirit. Located at the south-eastern tip of Etobicoke, Mimico and its nearby Humber Bay Shores are famous for a sense of serenity.

Prior to its amalgamation into the all-encompassing City of Toronto in 1998, Mimico was Toronto's oldest lakeshore neighbourhood. The area has a rich history, first as a farming village in the mid-1800s, then as a retreat for wealthy Torontonians in the late-1800s, and as a popular entry point for immigrants to Toronto in the 1950s. Today the region is host to a vibrant bedroom community for Torontonians looking for a home with personality, away from the daily grind.

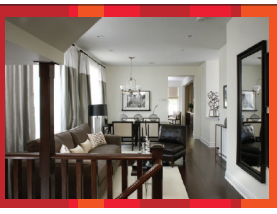
The area abounds with an eclectic atmosphere infused by a wide variety of backgrounds and demographics. Almost half of all immigrants to Mimico were from Europe, a quarter came from different parts of Asia, while the rest hail from a mix of countries across the world.

Gorgeous little houses pepper the tree-lined streets that slink inwards from the major traffic routes and plenty of new condominium housing located on premium land has been popping up in the area as well.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE>>

A wall mural on the streets of Mimico.

Fall Into... Design.



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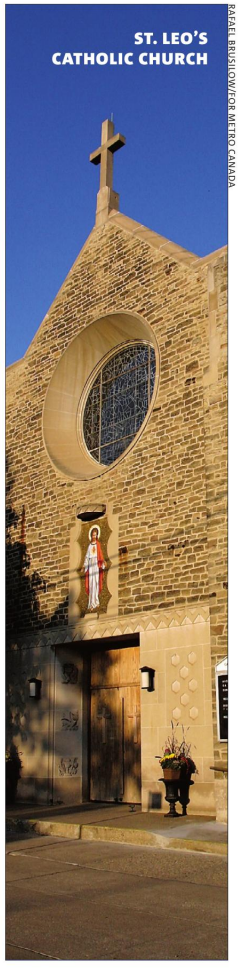
Monarch

Two main commercial zones
Mimico has two commercial strips; along Royal York Road north of Mimico Avenue and along a straight stretch of Lake Shore Boulevard West, parallel to the shoreline. METRO NEWS SERVICES



RAFAEL BRUSILOW/FOR METRO CANADA

BIRD AND BEANS COFFEE SHOP
HANNAH FITNER/FOR METRO CANADA

CONDOS AND LAKE SHORE WEST
RAFAEL BRUSILOW/FOR METRO CANADA

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Legend

- 1. Kipling-Queensway Mall (SE corner Kipling and Queensway)
- 2. Queensway Cinemas (1025 The Queensway)
- 3. Mimico Village (corner of Melrose and Royal York)
- 4. Mimico Arena (31 Drummond St.)
- 5. John English JMS - 95 Mimico Avenue (School)
- 6. St. Leo's Catholic Church - 165 Stanley Avenue
- 7. GO Train station (315 Royal York)
- 8. George R Gauld JS - 200 Melrose St. (School)
- 9. Brownstone Lane - 325 Dalesford Rd. (Condo)
- 10. California Condos - Queensway & Park Lawn
- 11. South Beach Condos + Lofts - Lake Shore & Park Lawn
- 12. Beyond The Sea - Star Tower - Lake Shore Blvd & Park Lawn (Condo)
- 13. David Hornell JS - 32 Victoria Street (School)
- 14. Mimico Cruising Club
- 15. Nautilus & Waterscapes at Waterview - Lake Shore Blvd & Park Lawn (Condo)
- 16. Hearthstone By The Bay - Marine Parade & Lake Shore (Condo)
- 17. Humber Bay Park
- 18. Colonel Samuel Smith Park
- 19. Seventh Street JS - 101 Seventh Street (School)
- 20. Second Street JMS - 71 Second Street (School)

<<CONT. FROM LAST PAGE

Lake Shore Boulevard West spears through Mimico's southern boundary, flanking the lake while Royal York Road heads through the area's heart to Mimico Village where charming mom-and-pop stores still rule the roost.

The expansive Humber Bay Park in the northeast tops the long list of park spaces throughout the area while easy access to the Gardiner and a central GO train station means the area will continue to serve as an accessible retreat from megacity life.

The Lowdown:

- **AVERAGE REAL ESTATE VALUES:** $359,121 (Source: City of Toronto, Statistics Canada)
- **AVERAGE GROSS RENT:** $899 (Source: City of Toronto, Statistics Canada)
- **GYMS & FITNESS:** Mimico Arena (31 Drummond St.), Ambition Personal Training (63 Superior Ave.), Take Thirty Fitness Centres (2735 Lake Shore Blvd W.)
- **NOTABLE SCHOOLS:** John English JMS (95 Mimico Ave.), St. Leo School (165 Stanley Ave.), Second Street JMS (71 Second St.), David Hornell JS (32 Victoria St.), George R Gauld JS (200 Melrose St.)
- **CONDOMINIUM DEVELOPMENTS:** Hearthstone by the Bay (3 Marine Parade Dr.), Beyond the Sea Star Tower (near Lake Shore and Legion Rd.), Aquaview (68 Marine Parade Dr.)
- **GETTING AROUND:** TTC bus routes along Royal York and Evans Ave. connecting to the Bloor-Danforth subway and streetcars along Lake Shore Blvd W., Gardiner Expressway to the north and the central Mimico GO Transit station.

RAFAEL BRUSILOW

HOMES IN MIMICO
RAFAEL BRUSILOW/FOR METRO CANADA

What do you like about Mimico and Humber Bay Shores? -By Rafael Brusilow

Mariana Kouzela
age 14, lives in the area
It's progressing as an area — I'm liking what it's turning into. It's hip!

Alexis Rey
age 35, lives in the area
The lakeshore reminds me of the sea and it's kid-friendly. Eden is a really nice bar.

Gennady Kalyta
age 22, lives in the area
Great area. There's a lot of nature, and Walmart and No Frills aren't far.

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The Passenger Pigeon
The name "Mimico" is derived from the Mississauga word omiimiikaa meaning "abundant with Wild Pigeons." The Passenger Pigeon was thought to have been the most numerous species in the world at the time European colonization began in North America. WIKIPEDIA.ORG

Feels almost like the East Coast

HANNAH ZITNER
for Metro Canada

This lakeshore community, once a waterfront shanty-town, is cleaning itself up without diluting its small-town charm.

Although easily accessible on the Queen streetcar, this west-end neighbourhood feels more like a quiet East Coast town than a suburban outpost.

As the area has developed over the past few years, the main strip's dollar stores and nail salons now share their waterfront acreage with a fair-trade coffee shop, fresh juice bar, upscale bistro and community arts centre.

BE SURE TO CATCH PLACES AND SPACES EVERY WEEK IN METRO HOMES SECTION.

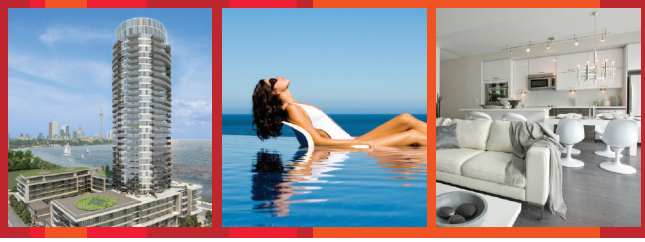
The boardwalk hugging the lake is yet another hint of a coastal town. Walkers, runners and bikers enjoy the two-year old boardwalk and gives residents more access to their waterfront. Even the clinking of flags against poles serves as a reminder that this is a lakefront community.

ALL PHOTOS HANNAH ZITNER/FOR METRO CANADA

ABOVE: Although not much happens on the main streets of Mimico after dark, there are a few options for a pint and (award-winning) wings at local favorites, such as The Blue Goose Tavern. Meanwhile, weekend days the bird-friendly coffee shop, Birds and Beans Coffee, hosts standing-room-only jazz sessions.

LEFT: Although quaint like a small town, the area still has the diversity of a big city. The Polish overflow from Roncesvalles has brought several delis and restaurants, while new comers in the neighborhood have brought restaurants such as the new Café du Lac, a Quebecois bistro, and Universal Bakery (shown.)

Fall Into…
Location.



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One set of china **Seven** stunning looks

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A few brilliant styling tricks elevate white china to a feast for the eyes — at prices that won't break the bank!

By Brett Walther

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JODI PUDGE

STARTING POINT: MAXWELL & WILLIAMS CASHMERE 27.5 CM BONE CHINA DINNER PLATE $12, 20 CM SIDE PLATE $7, NORTHDALE TRADING.

1. Lay runners crosswise for a fresh alternative to individual placemats. Evergreen in Chocolate 13" x 72" cotton runner $40, and 20" square cotton napkin $10, Danica. Gold birch napkin ring $70 per set of four, AT Design Group. Faux bois-finish stainless steel flatware $40 per 20-piece set, HomeSense. **2.** Marry pretty, patterned linens with solids for a pairing that's harmonious, not busy. Folklore 13" x 19" cotton placemat in black $9, April Cornell Essential 18" square hand-knotted fringe cotton napkin in black $18 per set of six, Danica. Nikita filigree beaded napkin ring in black $7, Abbott. Etched stainless steel flatware $40 per 20-piece set, HomeSense. **3.** Get the look of monogrammed linens at a fraction of the cost with self-adhesive or iron-on appliqué letters. Tissage Moutet Gouny et Marange 66" x 96" cotton/linen tablecloth $294, JacKryn France. Heirloom 14" x 20" embroidered linen placemat $20, 22" square linen hemstitch napkin $14, Pottery Barn. Stick-Ons monogram appliqué, $4, Fabricland. Granny 12" pressed-glass plate $7, Abbott. Brasserie Flatware in Cream $40 per five-piece place setting, JacKryn France. **4.** Layer in a white charger to bulk up the china without losing the airiness of the tone-on-tone palette. Marimekko Lumimarja 160 x 320 cm cotton sateen tablecloth $125, Marimekko Vancouver. Maxwell & Williams Cashmere 30.5 cm bone china rim charger $30, Northdale Trading. Plaza 18" square cotton napkin in light grey $12 per set of four, Accents de Ville by Linea. Michael Aram silver twig flatware $106 per five-piece place setting, AT Design Group. **5.** Repurpose costume jewelry and bits of salvaged ribbon as no-two-alike napkin ring enclosures. 14" Capiz shell placemat $20, Dorset 21" square cotton/rayon napkin $5, Crate and Barrel. Napoleon Pearlized Ivory plastic-and-stainless steel flatware $80 US per five-piece place setting, Rosanna. **6.** Take a napkin from ordinary to extraordinary with a fancy pocket for flatware. Etienne 14" x 19" embroidered cotton placemat in Rust $11, Lustre 21" square polyrayon napkin in Rust $6, Kava 5¾" stoneware saucer $16, Crate and Barrel. Wood-handle horn flatware $15 per three-piece set, AT Design Group. **7.** Make a tablecloth from remnant fabric. For a no-sew finish, apply hemming tape to the cut edge; or pull loose fibres to create a half-inch fringe, then treat with Fray Block (available at fabric and craft stores). Waverly By Color Collection Country Life cotton toile fabric in Burlap $33 per metre, Fabricland. Tava 14" rattan charger in Espresso $25, Pottery Barn. Hemstitch 20" square cotton napkin in Navy $5, Danica. Rustik beech-handle stainless steel flatware $50 per 20-piece set with tray (not shown), IKEA.

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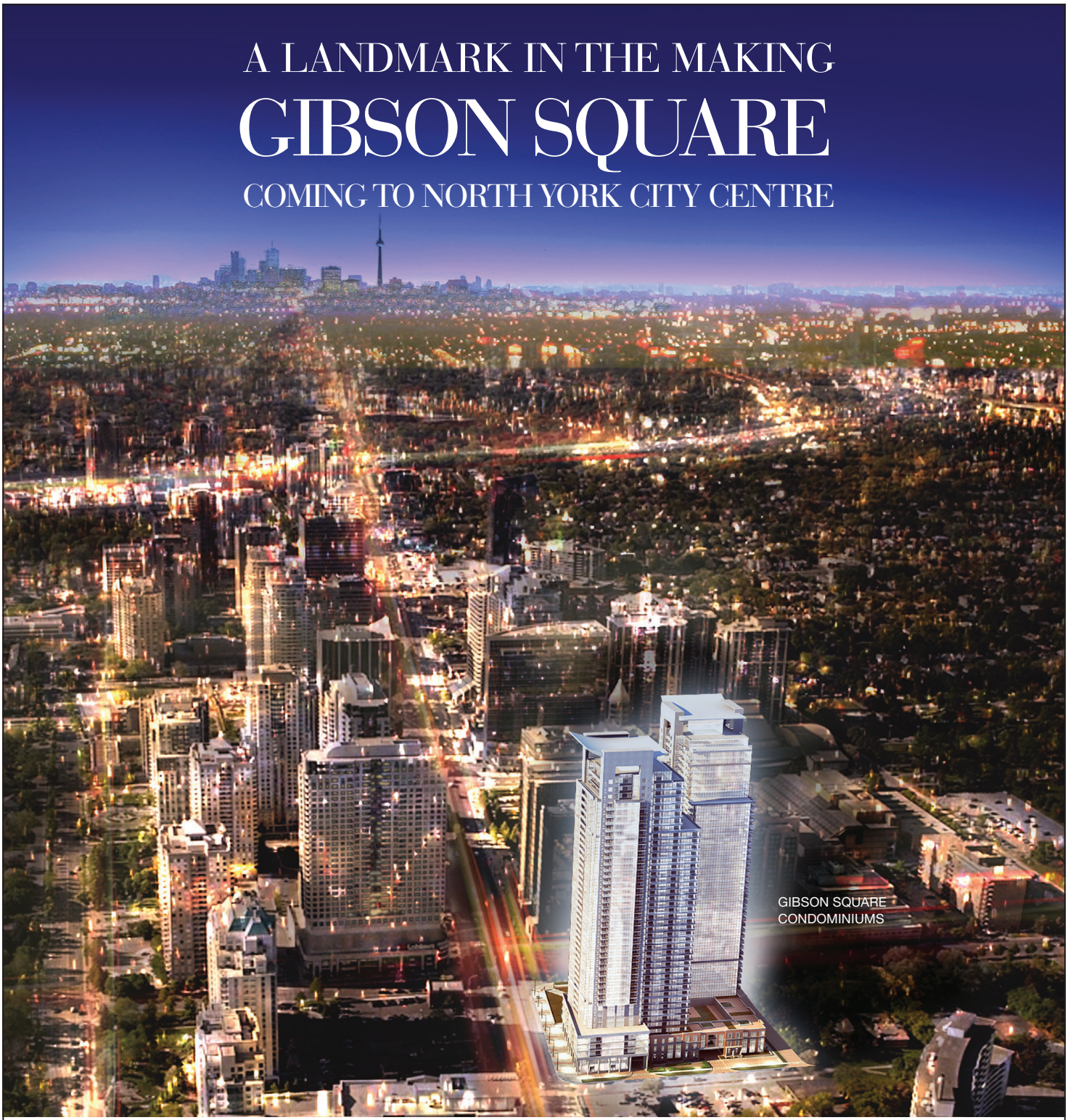

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Are we safe from drywall nightmare?

LegalMatters

Jeffrey D. Cowan
jeff@cowanlaw.ca

Q WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — James and Maria Ivory's dreams of a relaxing retirement on Florida's Gulf Coast were put on hold when they discovered their new home had been built with Chinese drywall that emits sulfuric fumes and corrodes pipes. It got worse when they asked their insurer for help — and not only was their claim denied, but they've been told their entire policy won't be renewed. Thousands of homeowners nationwide who bought new houses constructed from the defective building materials are finding their hopes dashed, their lives in limbo. And experts warn that cases like the Ivorys', in which insurers drop policies or send notices of non-renewal based on the presence of the Chinese drywall, will become rampant as insurance companies process the hundreds of claims currently in the pipeline. At least three insurers have already cancelled or refused to renew policies after homeowners sought their help replacing the bad wallboard. Because mortgage companies require homeowners to insure their properties, they are then at risk of foreclosure, yet no law prevents the cancellations.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This is aside from the grave health risks that appear to be associated with homes with Chinese drywall. Could this happen here?

A Fortunately, we are covered by a comprehensive home warranty program called Tarion which covers defective workmanship and materials. Any new homes in Ontario that have not been occupied are covered by this warranty (whether the builder is registered under Tarion or not — contrary to last week's article where I was misinformed).

So presumably, the sulfuric drywall would be replaced under warranty, and it is my understanding that the warranty organization would pursue the builder fairly aggressively for compensation

If a home has been build with contaminated drywall, the entire guts of the house, including any other materials that came into contact with the product would have to be replaced.

One however could imagine some minor repairs being done to an existing structure with this product, which would not be covered by Tarion. It would then be up to the homeowner to pursue the contractor who had used the defective materials for replacement and/or compensation.

It is estimated that approximately 929,000 square meters of Chinese drywall arrived in Canada through Vancouver for use mainly in the B.S. Lower Mainland but some may have reached into the Prairies and even Toronto.

The full effect has yet to be felt in Canada and more specifically in Ontario.

Jeffrey Cowan is the principal with Cowan Taylor and McGee, Barristers & Solicitors. The information in this article should not be relied upon as legal advice.

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Big work for a **little nook**

EMMA YARDLEY
for Metro Canada

A kitchen nook may be small but it has a big job to do; it has to provide all the storage and cooking areas of a regular-sized kitchen in half the space.

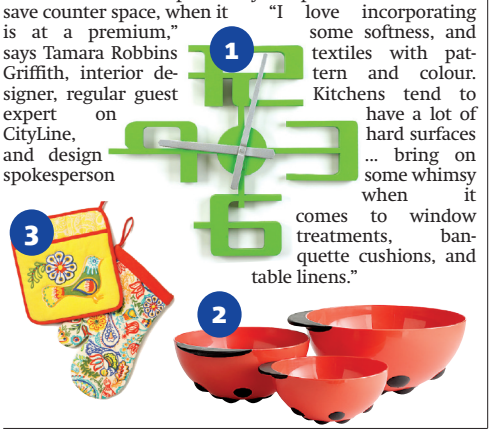
For starters, try fixing a rack and rail system to the wall for frequently used utensils and choosing a drying board that fits above the sink.

"Both of those options save counter space, when it is at a premium," says Tamara Robbins Griffith, interior designer, regular guest expert on CityLine, and design spokesperson for Ikea Canada.

"Choose accessories that make a statement. Since there isn't tons of room for unnecessary objects, the ones you choose should 'work hard,' in both design and function."

Her number one piece of advice though is installing floor-to-ceiling cabinetry with pullout pot drawer with dividers for all your cookware. While function is the name of the game you can still have fun with your space.

"I love incorporating some softness, and textiles with pattern and colour. Kitchens tend to have a lot of hard surfaces ... bring on some whimsy when it comes to window treatments, banquette cushions, and table linens."



1. You don't need your glasses to read this clock. Bigtime green clock, $73.50, Umbra, umbra.com.
2. Use these ladybug mixing bowls for whipping up a batch of cookies or serving a salad at suppertime. Pier 1 Imports, $44, pier1.com.
3. The Lulea mitt and potholder are both pretty and protective. Anthropologie, $14 each, anthropologie.com.
4. The ceramic mechanism in the Meeme salt and pepper grinder adjusts from course to fine and everything in between. Zak Designs, $19.99 each, The Bay.
5. Having furniture in a kitchen nook that can change from task to task is important since it's used for everything from making toast to finishing up homework. Norbo wall-mounted drop-leaf table, $49.99, Agne stools, $26.99 each, Ikea, ikea.ca.
6. Neatly organized storage tins help to keep small kitchens uncluttered. Tripp, Ikea, $4.99 for a set of three, ikea.ca.

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Fresh but still 'warm'

RAF BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

With green views and warm interiors, Scenic on Eglinton is proof that nature and modern comfort can be weaved together harmoniously.

Built by Aspen Ridge Homes near Leslie and Eglinton, Scenic on Eglinton takes the natural splendour of beautiful Sunnybrook Park as its cue for both style and substance.

Model suite designer Mike Niven, president of Mike Niven Interior Design Inc., says the goal was to choose colours and textures that would let the views of Sunnybrook Park permeate the space.

"The focus was to bring a feeling of the outside into a modern environment. The view is incredible so it's all about bringing the outside in," Niven said.

Floor-to-ceiling windows throughout the suite and across the entire width of the main living area enable the great view, while splashes of apple green accents give life to the space. Cream and cappuccino shades combined with subtle off-neutral tones ensure the suite still exudes warmth.

"Not only did we want a sense of freshness, it also needed to feel warm. People need to feel like they can live here — we want people to walk in and feel like they can wind down," Niven said.

A combination of retro and contemporary furniture was picked that provides clean lines, making a natural mix possible without making the space feel cluttered. Custom designs in the bedrooms focus on built-in accessories and pieces that create a unifying effect. The overriding motif is Italian — simple, clean and still luxurious.

"You have a mixture of modern Italian furniture and everything is more built-in so that it looks clean instead of cluttered," Niven said.

Located past a counter vanity in the master bedroom, the impressive ensuite master bathroom splits off to a walk-in shower on one side and a separate toilet on the other, an effect usually reserved for penthouse suites but actually standard in a large number of Scenic on Eglinton's suites. "It's very spalike, very different that I think anybody has tried in a standard unit," Niven.

For more information, visit scenicliving.ca.

Suite Talk

Scenic on Eglinton

- Builder: Aspen Ridge Homes
- Website: scenicliving.ca
- Availability: now
- Sizes & prices: Suites in the east tower range from 557 to 1,341 square feet with 9-foot ceilings, balconies (as per plan), granite kitchen counters, and five appliances. Prices for one-bedroom suites begin from $206,990, two-bedroom from $286,990, and three-bedroom from $515,990. Parking is included with each suite.

A selection of photographs from Scenic on Eglinton.

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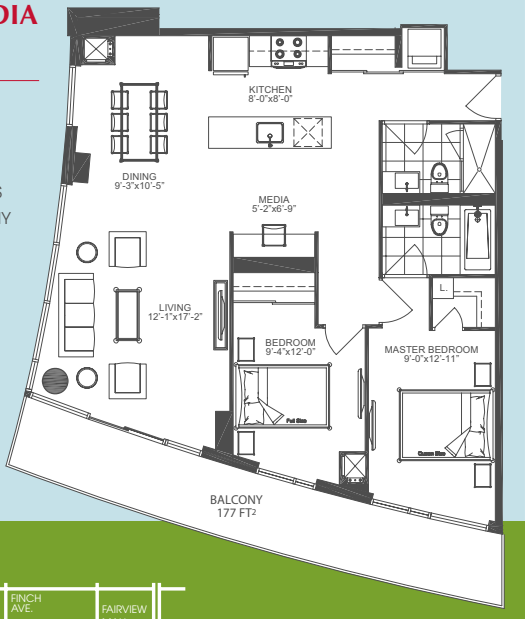

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Winner of Via Rail uniform contest
A Montreal-based Rudsak designer has landed on the fast track to fashion victory as the winner of the Via Rail uniform design contest. Xiao Wei took home top honours at an event held at last week's LG Fashion Week in Toronto. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Style

Fox to model for Armani

Confirming that endorsement deals still have cachet in a recession, Transformers star Megan Fox is pulling down a seven-figure payday to model Armani underwear and jeans. The 23-year-old will be the new face of Emporio Armani Underwear and Armani Jeans in 2010, the Milan-based fashion house announced. Fox is projected to make close to $2 million for a one-year ad campaign, a source has told The Associated Press. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Choo debut at H&M

Founder Tamara Mellon talks designing on a budget

KENYA HUNT
Metro World News

With so many starry designer H&M collaborations happening each year, it's hard to get as excited about them these days.

But Jimmy Choo founder and president Tamara Mellon's upcoming collection for the brand is special for a number of reasons: 1) It's the first time the Swedish chain has linked up with an accessories brand. 2) It's the first time Tamara Mellon has designed ready-to-wear. and 3) The animal print, studded and richly colored shoes and handbags have got all the same lust factor as the expensive accessories you dream about wearing at a price you can actually afford. The queen of luxury shoes talks about designing on a budget.

Q You've long lived in the world of luxury. Was it difficult to create an affordable collection for the masses that still maintains the ritzy aesthetic of Jimmy Choo?

A The H&M customer is slightly younger yet we wanted to stay true to what Jimmy Choo is. There's always a rock chick there, but also a sense of elegance. The Jimmy Choo autumn '09 collection had a big Debbie Harry and punk rock chic inspiration with leopard print, neon, studs and dynamism. So that was our starting point. For H&M, you can see the trickle down effect. We were not sure at first whether we could use real leathers, studs, crystals and rivets, but when we found what was possible it completely exceeded our expectations.

"Invest in accessories. You can always modernize your look with key accessories."
Tamara Mellon, Jimmy Choo president

The Jimmy Choo for H&M collection hits stores Nov. 14

Q What advice would you give to shoppers who want a more expensive-looking wardrobe, but on a budget?

A Invest in accessories. You can always modernize your look with key accessories.

Q Did you approach the ready-to-wear design differently from the way you approached the shoes? If so, what were the major differences?

A When Margareta van den Bosch approached me with the idea of doing ready to wear as well as the accessories, I thought it would be a great opportunity to create the full look of a Jimmy Choo woman. We first designed the shoes and bags and then followed with the clothes. You could say the clothes are the "accessories" to the shoes and bags. When approaching the clothing collection I first thought, 'What would I wear with the shoes and bags?' And Margareta was keen to do a party collection with the launch being in November. We created a fun, accessible collection to reach a young customer with a fashionable and independent spirit.

Jimmy Choo bracelet with beads and crystals, $29.95.

Men's Jimmy Choo leather jacket, $299.

Men's Jimmy Choo leather shoe with zip, $179.

Jimmy Choo crystal studded dress, $149.

Jimmy Choo zebra ballet flats $79.95

On model: Jimmy Choo blue suede dress, $299, fake fur vest, $129, leather studded belt, $69.95, high heel strap shoe with zip $149.

Jimmy Choo leopard clutch, $149.

The collections

- **Shoes:** Jimmy Choo's exclusive collaboration with H&M hits stores Nov. 14. From high heels and thigh-high boots to gladiator flats and ballet pumps, the shoe collection will feature crystal embellishments, studs, animal prints such as zebra and accent colours of red and blue.
- **Accessories:** What's more, this glimpse into the brand's glamorous world will also be featuring clothes and accessories for both men and women. Accessories include evening clutches and larger day bags, which are studded or fringed, belts that are studded and wide, choker necklaces, bracelets, cuffs and earrings.
- **Clothes:** The clothing collection has a gloss goth feel with one-shoulder dresses, jumpsuits, leather leggings and dresses covered in crystals, emphasized by a faux-fur gilet, sequined cardigans and embroidered tops. For men, there will be a selection of ankle boots and bags, as well as a wardrobe of wool blazers, leather biker jackets, silk and cashmere mix sweaters, shirts and trousers.
- **Prices:** Range from $29.95 to $299.
- **Locations:** Jimmy Choo for H&M will be available at four locations in Canada: Toronto's Eaton Centre and 15 Bloor St. W. store, Vancouver's Pacific Centre and Montreal's 1100 St. Catherine St.

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BACKSTAGE PASS Get down and dirty with Led Zeppelin: Good Times, Bad Times, the ultimate all-access lookbook ($45.50, at fine bookstores)

HIGH NOTE Impress your #1 fan with Jean Paul Gaultier MaDame Rose 'n' Roll Eau de Toilette ($102 for 75 mL, at department stores)

STUDIO ANDRÉ DOYON

UP 'TIL DAWN? Camouflage naughty nights with a sultry, smoky eye. BareMinerals Tutorials Rocker Eye palette ($48, Bare Escentuals, 1-877-SEPHORA)

Editors' Pick

HOT LIST

TOP KNOT The romantic belle de nuit flower is the star in this fresh, sweet scent that looks like a gift waiting to be unwrapped. Ricci Ricci by Nina Ricci Eau de Parfum Spray ($78 for 50 mL)

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Vancouver goes global for Fashion Week

ANDREA WOO
for Metro Canada

PREVIEW Vancouver Fashion Week will have a global theme this season to reflect the local fashion industry's growing popularity around the world, according to the show's producer.

"From the beginning, our plan was global, international," said Jamal Abdourahman, who started VFW in 2000. "We've made a lot of progress in the last four seasons. We're way more known internationally now than we are here."

Abdourahman says several aspects of the show will reflect the global theme, including the models, clothing and designers. Designers will come from Italy, Germany and Norway, for example, as well as from across Canada. There will also be a "Night in Taipei" themed evening and one show that will feature all South Asian models.

"We're not doing that just because Bollywood is cool," said Jamal, adding that it will be a first for VFW. "We're doing that because the Indian community doesn't get that many opportunities."

One label to look out for is Orange NYC by Taiwan-born, Vancouver-raised designer Angela Chen, who will be debuting a black-and-white themed spring/summer 2010 line.

"People can expect to see where I came from and my aesthetic as a designer," she said.

Another is Vancouver-based label Kersh, whose theme this year will be Shanghai Cowgirl.

"We believe that the fusion of east meets west is a global trend, and a very big trend in fashion," said sales and marketing assistant Ryan Pugsley. "The Shanghai Cowgirl is a blend of east, rock and roll, nautical and cowboy/western styling."

Next Friday will also feature a showcase of eco-friendly designers, both local and international.

Event details

- Vancouver Fashion Week Week takes place from Nov. 3 to 8. For more information visit vanfashionweek.com.

Left: A design by Vancouver-based label Kersh whose theme at this year's Vancouver Fashion Week will be Shanghai Cowgirl.

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Fall of the Wall with U2
U2 will play a free show in Germany to commemorate the fall of the Berlin Wall. The rockers will play in front of Berlin's iconic Brandenburg Gate as part of the MTV European Music Awards (EMAs) on Nov. 5, as a prelude to the city's Fall of the Wall celebrations. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Entertainment

Exposure
Brangelina Exposed, a new investigative book about Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie, written by author and journalist Ian Halperin, will hit stores on Dec. 1.
USMAGAZINE.COM

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

A CLASSIC; EXCELLENT; GOOD; FAIR; POOR

This Is It for Michael Jackson

This Is It

Album: Michael Jackson
Label: Sony
Rating:

THE SOUNDTRACK TO the film contains nothing that a Michael Jackson fan didn't already own before the begloved one's death, except two versions (pop and orchestral) of the title track that's not really new at all, three demos of questionable quality (She's Out of My Life, Wanna Be Startin' Somethin', Beat It) and a strange spoken word poem pledging love to the planet earth. The song This Is It was written and recorded with Canadian crooner Paul Anka in 1983, but was never deemed worthy enough to make it to an album. Even the impassioned vocals of a MJ at his prime and the over-dubbed ooh-oohs of his brothers can't make this so-so track into worthy of the real hits on this album. The song seems unfinished, all middle and no beginning or end, lacking that final flourish or thundering chorus that could make it something other than forgettable.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Creed

Album: Full Circle
Label: Wind-Up
Rating:

ONE BREAK-UP MUSIC critics were thrilled about was the dissolution of Creed. By the time the foursome disbanded they had become the most bloated and cringe-inducing modern rock band. But, to our dismay, they're back. And even worse, they don't sound half bad. The group still deals in epic, arena rock choruses and sappy gut-wrenching ballads, but for the first time since the group's debut they sound passionate and in control. The songs here are at least as catchy as some of the older hits, and while new fans won't flock to this, the millions of old ones will.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

Michael Jackson's This Is It contains two versions of the title track.

Tegan & Sara

Album: Sainthood
Label: Sire/Warner
Rating:

WHILE SAINTHOOD IS Tegan and Sara's sixth record, it's only recently that they've become the go to team for angsty girl-fronted power pop. Their latest picks up where The Con left off — infectious and energetic punk-light tunes. These tracks mostly deal with love — they discuss their parents' divorce and their own break-ups. Musically, the twins don't depart much from their formula, but they add electronic and experimental flourishes, and the songs are tighter than ever. It's another step in the right direction.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

Music Reviews

music@metronews.ca

Matt Dusk

Album: Good News
Label: Royal Crown/Universal
Rating:

IT'S TOUGH LIVING in the shadow of Michael Bublé. Tough being that other Canadian who can sing Sinatra like Sinatra. But that's life for Toronto retro crooner Matt Dusk who tries to give himself a new rep here by adding some contemporary dance beats to this collection of mostly original songs. The result is disastrous on synth-filled techno laughers like Love Attack and Don't Hate On Me. Thankfully, these are the only tracks that suffer from heavy-handed production. There are some pleasing tracks, especially the opening track and the two tracks which follow, I Wouldn't Change a Thing and On Vacation.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Twilight: New Moon

Album: Various Artists
Label: Atlantic/Warner
Rating:

THERE'S NO DOUBT Twilight: New Moon will be a huge hit. But expect the soundtrack to top the charts too. With the likes of Death Cab For Cutie, Thom Yorke and Lykke Li penning exclusive tracks for the disc, it's no wonder that this is easily the best movie-related record of the year. Nearly every song is worth listening to on repeat, but standouts include Anya Marina's soft Satellite Heart and Grizzly Bear's haunting Slow Life. Even the Killers turn in a solid performance on A White Demon Love Song. This is a must have for every indie rock fan.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

VideoOnline
Watch the video for Meet Me at the Equinox by Death Cab For Cutie online at metronews.ca/music.

Andre Agassi serves up bombshell

In his new memoir, tennis star Andre Agassi admits to regularly using crystal meth in the late '90s: "I can't speak to addiction, but a lot of people would say that if you're using anything as an escape, you have a problem." PEOPLE.COM

This Is It gives raw glimpse into Jackson's final show

Michael Jackson's **This Is It**

Director: Kenny Ortega
Star: Michael Jackson
Classification: PG
Rating:

IAN GORMELY
for Metro Canada

It's ironic that the final creative project from a performer who spent his entire career striving for polished perfection would be something this raw.

Originally intended as filler for a 3-D concert film of Michael Jackson's UK comeback shows, This is It was pieced together by director and longtime Jackson collaborator Kenny Ortega from footage shot during the four months of rehearsals leading up to Jackson's death in June.

It tracks the star from the press conference announcing the shows, through dancer tryouts, band rehearsals and video shoots, interspersed with rehearsal performances of Jackson's biggest hits.

As the film opens with Wanna Be Startin' Somethin', it's almost shocking to see Jackson doing what he does best: Singing and dancing. Having not played a show in a decade, the King of Pop has offered up nothing to balance out his tabloid lifestyle.

The King of Pop hits the stage during rehearsals for his UK comeback shows, featured in This Is It.

Even more shocking is seeing how fierce a dancer he remained to the end, frequently upstaging dancers half his age. The film's best segments come from scenes using split screens to contrast a song's evolution over the course of rehearsals, particularly on Human Nature and The Way You Make Me Feel.

While the film's first 45 minutes are thrilling, giving a rare glimpse of Jackson's creative process, it loses steam two-thirds of the way through.

What comes across is Jackson's active participation in the creation of these shows. The film's best moments capture him directing the band or dancers to meet his high expectations And based on the footage, the London shows would have been spectacular. But This Is It feels more like the greatest DVD bonus feature than a feature film.

On the web

- For This Is It photos, trailers and screen times — or to buy tickets — visit metronews.ca/movies.

Copperfield faces sex assault lawsuit

MAGIC David Copperfield has won a six-month stay in a lawsuit filed by a Seattle woman, who contends the magician sexually assaulted her while she was a guest on his private island in the Bahamas. Copperfield has denied the allegations.

U.S. District Judge John Coughenour stayed the case Tuesday, so the U.S. attorney's office in Seattle can complete a criminal investigation.

David Copperfield

Copperfield said he was being put in the untenable legal position of having to provide information in the civil case that could be used against him in a criminal prosecution.

The Seattle Times describes the woman as a former Miss Washington USA contestant. She says she met Copperfield during a performance in Kennewick, Washington, and was invited to visit his island in July 2007.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

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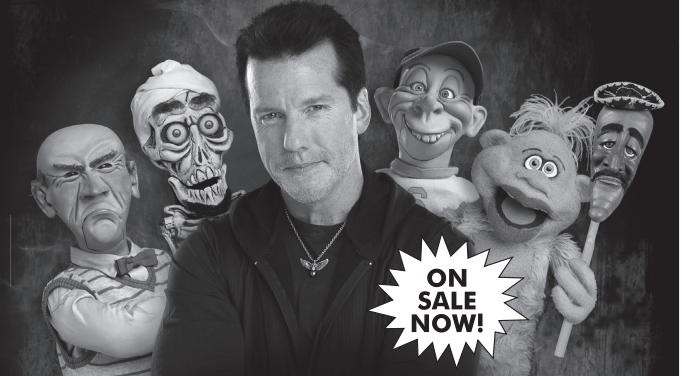

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More relationship drama for Jon Gosselin
Hailey Glassman says Jon Gosselin, her reality star boyfriend, is emotionally abusive. "He'll call me and take his anger out on me," Glassman, 22, says in a two-part interview scheduled to air on The Insider beginning tonight. PEOPLE.COM

Family Feud gets facelift

Family Feud and its host, John O'Hurley, have upped-the-ante in the game show's newest season, with a faster-paced opening, a new look and new prizes.

The syndicated series, which marks its 30th anniversary this year, recently held tryouts in five U.S. cities. During the tryouts, families were candid about their need for financial help with mortgages, college fees and Christmas expenses. Some even spoke of job losses in front of a crowd of other would-be contestants, said executive producer Gaby Johnston.

"They weren't afraid to tell me. And everybody starting clapping when they said that," recalled Johnston, adding the audition rooms were filled. In Phoenix, more than 1,500 people came out.

In the new, fast-paced "bull's-eye round" that opens the show, contestants have a chance to bank up to $30,000 before the main round of play begins. Those who win the fast-money round at the show's conclusion can keep the banked cash.

Other changes include a set makeover and video profiles of the competing families, intended to make viewers feel more invested in the contestants, according to producers. But the format is essentially intact, said Johnston, adding: "The audience loves familiarity. If we went too far, people we would think we robbed them."

O'Hurley, now in his fourth season as host welcomed the new elements.

"It immediately infuses the show with an energy we were never able to get to before," he said. "It's a wonderful way to trigger families to a high-energy approach and it's easier for viewers to get right into the game."

A new Wii version of the game has also just been released.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cyrus' alleged stalker not indicted in Georgia

COURT A Georgia grand jury has refused to indict a 53-year-old on charges of attempting to stalk teen star Miley Cyrus as she filmed a movie.

The grand jury decided yesterday that prosecutors failed to present sufficient evidence to indict Mark McLeod of Appling, Ga., on charges of attempted stalking, obstruction of a police officer and disturbing the peace.

Miley Cyrus

McLeod has been jailed since Aug. 4, after police arrested him twice on Tybee Island, where 16-year-old Cyrus was filming The Last Song.

Police say McLeod told them he was engaged to the Hannah Montana star and resisted being escorted from the set.

He remained in jail yesterday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Feist will headline Olympiad

VANCOUVER Indie-pop singer-songwriter Feist headlines a diverse group of artists announced as performers at the 2010 Cultural Olympiad.

Montreal hip-hop DJ Kid Koala has also been added to the roster, along with Dallas Green's folk project City and Colour, and Toronto-based buzz band Rural Alberta Advantage.

Also announced were recent Polaris Music Prize finalists Hey Rosetta! of St. John's, N.L., and Montreal indie-rockers Malajube.

Previously announced performers include Toronto rock collective Broken Social Scene, American singer-songwriter Steve Earle and Toronto hip-hop artist K'Naan.

More than 130 music, theatre, visual arts, dance and digital programming projects have been announced for the Olympiad — a series of multidisciplinary festivals in Vancouver running from Jan. 22 to March 21, 2010.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ferguson by flashlight

Late Late Show host Craig Ferguson had to finish taping his program by flashlight Tuesday after high winds knocked out power at CBS Television City in central L.A. The lights went out as Ferguson was interviewing actress Alicia Silverstone. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Doctor kept stash of Anna Nicole's medical records at home: witness

A doctor accused of conspiracy to provide prescription drugs to model Anna Nicole Smith kept a hidden stash of her medical records in his home, a medical board investigator testified yesterday.

Investigators found files containing Smith's medical records hidden in the kitchen and on the floor of a closet in the home of Dr. Sandeep Kapoor after Smith died from an accidental drug overdose, investigator Jon Genens said.

Authorities later seized another set of records at the office of Kapoor's attorney. All the records were either in the name of Smith or Michelle Chase, a pseudonym she used, Genens said.

The two sets of files were for the same dates but included slightly different information, he said.

Superior Court Judge Robert J. Perry said the secreting of information at the house could be interpreted as "guilty knowledge."

He did not elaborate during the preliminary hearing.

Kapoor, Dr. Kristine Eroshevich and Smith's boyfriend-lawyer Howard K. Stern are charged with illegally funnelling drugs to Smith. All have pleaded not guilty.

The hearing now in its third week is to determine if there is enough evidence for them to stand trial.

Genens said medical files found in the closet contained a note saying, "benzo addicted? To avoid." The apparent reference to addiction to sedatives known as benzodiazopines was missing from the second set of files for the same day, he said.

The files in the closet also referred to "opioid dependence on methadone," but the language was omitted from the records at the attorney's office, Genens said.

In an earlier interview, Kapoor had said he did not usually keep medical records at this house, the investigator said.

Deputy District Attorney Renee Rose tried to elicited testimony from Genens that investigators also found a file at Kapoor's home on his treatment of Smith's son, Daniel, who died of a drug overdose in 2006.

But Judge Perry said he would not allow any testimony about Daniel's death.

"I'm trying to keep the content of this report out of the hearing because we are going down what I call the sensationalism road," Perry said. "I don't think we have to get into Daniel Smith."

Defence attorney Steve Sadow accused Rose of raising the matter to get it into the newspapers.

Earlier, expert witness Dr. James Gagne withdrew a piece of his testimony criticizing the dosages of methadone prescribed by Kapoor for Smith.

Gagne said he misunderstood records kept by Kapoor and now believes the methadone prescriptions were not a major issue in the case.

However, Gagne stood by earlier testimony that Kapoor gave Smith excessive dosages of opiates and sedatives.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SPENCER WEINTER-POOL/GETTY IMAGES

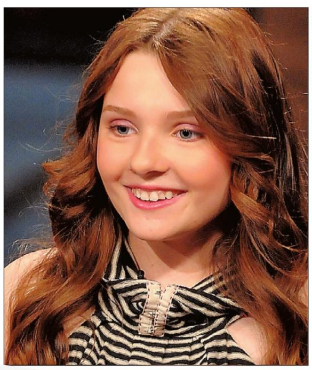
In this May 13 photo of court proceedings in Los Angeles, Dr. Sandeep Kapoor stands at far left, while Howard K. Stern, longtime confidant of Anna Nicole Smith, is third from left.

YOU'LL NEVER LOOK AT PEOPLE THE SAME WAY AGAIN.

Breslin to play Helen Keller on Broadway

From spunky Little Miss Sunshine to an even more heroic young girl: Abigail Breslin will play Helen Keller in the first Broadway revival of William Gibson's The Miracle Worker. scheduled to open on March 3, producer David Richenthal announced yesterday. Previews begin Feb. 12 at Circle in the Square Theatre.

Alison Pill will portray Annie Sullivan, the determined instructor who teaches the deaf and blind Helen how to communicate.



JAMIE MCCARTHY/GETTY IMAGES

Abigail Breslin

"I am so honoured," the 13-year-old Breslin said in an interview. "It's like the biggest thing in the world. ... I have read the biography of Helen Keller. So I've always known the story, and it's always been something I wanted to play.

"Helen is a hero of mine — for so many reasons. She never gave up on herself and she had so many people who believed in her like her teacher Annie Sullivan."

The production will be directed by Kate Whoriskey, who has extensive regional theatre credits and recently was named artistic director of the Intiman Theatre in Seattle.

Richenthal, producer of acclaimed revivals of such classics as Death of a Salesman and Long Day's Journey into Night, has long been a fan of the play, particularly since he was good friends with Gibson, who died in 2008.

"But I think one always needs to find ways to reintroduce it," Richenthal said. "I have been waiting for the right director and the right cast."

And he feels he has found them in his director and two stars.

About Breslin, Richenthal said: "I have never met a young girl her age who is so clear-eyed and unstarry. Helen Keller was brilliant — an IQ of 150-something — and obviously a courageous person to overcome what she did. I see in Abigail those qualities." The producer said he thought The Miracle Worker also needed a great woman director.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mix of Six

Music

Juno nominated In-Flight Safety will headline a show at the El Mocambo, 464 Spadina St., with doors opening at 9 p.m. Tickets are $12. wanttickets.com.

Halloween

Listen to tales of terror in candlelit historic homes at Todmorden Mills, Pottery Street east of Bayview Ave., at 7 p.m. $15 and $20. Pre-register by calling 416-396-2819.

Festival

The Cabaret Festival will feature performances by singers, dancers, actors and poets including Molly Johnson, Tomson Highway, and Elizabeth Shepherd. Young Centre for the Performing Arts, 55 Mill St. Through Nov. 1.

Performance

Art Garfunkel performs at the Rose Theatre, 1 Theatre Lane, at 8 p.m. Tickets are $95 to $115. rosetheatre.ca.

Orchestra

The Simón Bolívar Youth Orchestra of Venezuela performs at the Rogers Centre at 11:30 a.m. Tickets are available via that Glenn Gould Foundation.

Fair

The North Toronto Community Fair takes place today at the Yonge and Eglinton Centre, with displays and information on social, health and recreational programs. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Stargate Universe's likeable lone wolf

Robert Carlyle plays a brilliant but enigmatic scientist in the Vancouver-filmed sci-fi series

Whether in Yankee Stadium or the Land of Oz, getting home can be an all-consuming mission. But not on Stargate Universe. Not for Dr. Nicholas Rush.

It seems he would rather probe the far reaches of science while stranded in a rattletrap spaceship billions of light years from home.

As played by Robert Carlyle, Rush is at the core of SGU, a meditative thriller premiering recently on the Syfy network (in Canada it airs on Space), it builds on the mythology of the 1994 film Stargate and follow up series Stargate SG-1 and Stargate Atlantis.

The titular Stargates represent a perilous but potentially lifesaving transport system for the voyagers. Found throughout the universe — but don't expect Mapquest to show you where — each is an imposing, ring-like portal stretched with a permeable membrane that allows the brave or brash to pass through and emerge who-knows-where, like in a hopscotch game spread across the cosmos.

The Stargates offer a chance at connect-the-dots salvation. Or maybe doom.

Rush, the brilliant scientist, just wants to figure it all out. Home definitely isn't where his heart is, which puts him in regular conflict with his fellow journeyers, played by co-stars Ming-Na, Elyse Levesque, Lou Diamond Phillips, David Blue, Alaina Huffman, Louis Ferreira, Jamil Walker Smith and Brian J. Smith. "This ship, coming here, was my destiny," Rush declares. "My life's work was to be here."

ART STREIBER

Robert Carlyle stars in Stargate Universe.

"(Dr. Nicholas Rush) is very isolated, very much on his own. He only goes to people if he needs them." Robert Carlyle, actor

Rush is a loner, who may or may not be trustworthy. Who may be operating on sound scientific motives or, instead, in a defiant display of hubris.

"He's very isolated, very much on his own," Carlyle says. "He only goes to people if he needs them." And they don't like his neediness any more than he does.

Rush leaves viewers delightfully confused: Is this the one guy on board who, despite the others' push-back, has a handle on their crisis?

Or is he a narcissistic suicidal scoundrel? Viewers don't know, and they feel for him and doubt him at the same time.

When he was sought for the role, Carlyle says he was told, "We're looking for someone who can make dislikable things seem quite likable.' I said, 'Well, I'm potentially your man.'"

No wonder. In person, the Scottish-born actor is warm and outgoing and passionate about his work.

A compact man with large soulful eyes and a soothing brogue, he sports the scruffy, shaggy look of his character. (What's the point of good grooming in outer space?)

Before SGU, the 48-year-old Carlyle was already acclaimed for his off-centre characterizations. In Danny Boyle's 1996 film Trainspotting, he played a raving psychotic.

A year later in The Full Monty, he was among the down-on-their-luck steelworkers who dropped their drawers to strike it rich.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ex-Letterman writer tells of workplace 'inequality'

TELEVISION A former writer for David Letterman said she quit his NBC talk show in part because of alleged sexual favouritism and a hostile work environment.

Nell Scovell, writing for Vanity Fair online Tuesday, said she had no intention of filing a lawsuit and wasn't seeking revenge. "I wanted to shine a light on gender inequality in that particular workplace," Scovell, who went on to a successful Hollywood career, said in a telephone interview.

In the Vanity Fair article, Scovell said Letterman didn't "hit on her" during her roughly five-month stint with NBC's Late Night with David Letterman in 1990. "Did he pay me enough extra attention that it was noted by another writer? Yes. Was I aware of rumours that Dave was having sexual relationships with female staffers? Yes," Scovell wrote.

Other high-level male employees were having sexual relationships with female staffers as well, she alleges, and the women gained professional benefits from those relationships.

"Did that make me feel demeaned? Completely. Did I say anything at the time? Sadly, no," wrote Scovell, whose credits include writing for the series Coach and Monk and creating Sabrina, the Teenage Witch. She's also produced and directed.

Letterman, who moved to CBS in 1993 for Late Show, has admitted to workplace affairs that led to an alleged blackmail plot. He did not immediately respond for a request for comment on Scovell's article. CBS News producer Robert J. "Joe" Halderman has pleaded not guilty to trying to extort $2 million US from Letterman to keep some of the comedian's sexual affairs quiet.

Scovell wrote she doesn't intend to seek legal action. Instead, she said, she wants to call attention to the complete lack of women writers on all talk shows, whether hosted by Letterman or NBC's Jay Leno and Conan O'Brien.

'I don't want compensation. I don't want revenge. I don't want Dave to go down (oh, grow up, people). I just want Dave to hire some qualified female writers and then treat them with respect. And that goes for Jay and Conan, too," she wrote.

She quit Letterman's NBC show, Scovell wrote, because she saw "I was not going to thrive professionally in that workplace. And although there were various reasons for that, sexual politics did play a major part."

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The secret package

Inside Hana's Suitcase tells story of girl who died at Auschwitz

ADAM NAYMAN
for Metro Canada

Already well-known as Canada's most successful director of films on musical subjects — including the Oscar-nominated Making Overtures, The Story of a Community Orchestra — Larry Weinstein makes his theatrical documentary debut with Inside Hana's Suitcase.

The film, which screened earlier this year at the Hot Docs International Documentary Film Festival, uses Karen Levine's bestselling book Hana's Suitcase — about the efforts of Japanese schoolteacher, Fumiko Ishioka, to unravel the story of Hana Brady, a young Czech girl who died at Auschwitz — as a jumping off point for a sophisticated mediation on the relationship between private and public history.

"It's much more powerful when you get to know a person than to just hear numbers like 'six million,'" says Weinstein, who initiated the project shortly after Levine's book was published in 2002 but tried to keep the film distinct from its source material.

"I think that to view (such an event) through the prism of an individual story like Hana's makes it easier, especially for children."

This is not to say that Inside Hana's Suitcase is an easy film to digest. Besides the raw emotion that comes with seeing Hana's brother George talk about losing his parents and his sister, there's also the matter of Weinstein's esthetics, which blend deliberately artificial sequences set in the 1930s with subtler recreations of Ishioka's investigation in 2000: techniques that feel all the more appropriate after a final revelation about the eponymous luggage. "The feeling was that there could be a certain level of artifice in the film," explains Weinstein, whose previous films have been marked by similar formal gamesmanship. "But the important thing was that Hana was real."

"I was thinking," he continues, "that the 25 years of filmmaking that I've done have all pointed towards (this film). Because the message in it is so important, and making it is such a big responsibility. So I told George (Brady) that. He said 'well, imagine if you had 50 years under your belt.' I laughed and said 'yes, in that case, the film would actually be good.'"

Inside Hana's Suitcase opens in Toronto on Friday, Nov. 6

Movie **feature**

TO 10/29/09

Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime											
265	353	2 TVO	Super Structures (N)		The Agenda With Steve Paikin		The Jury (Part 5 of 6) (N)		Masterworks A portrait of artist Francis Bacon.		
211	331	3 GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Survivor: Samoa (N)		The Office (N)	The Office	90210 (HDTV)		News Final (N)
215	343	4 OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	Omni News: Italian Edition (N)		Vivere V	Omni News:	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
210	302	6 CBC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Doc Zone (N)		The Border "Hate Metal"		CBC News: The National		The Hour
214	344	7 CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Community (N)	Parks-Recreat	30 Rock	30 Rock	The Jay Leno Show (N)		News
212	313	8 CTV	The Vampire Diaries (N)		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Grey's Anatomy (N)		The Mentalist (HDTV) (N)		CTV News
218	345	11 CHCH	*Teen Wolf* ★★ (1985, Comedy) Michael J. Fox, Scott Paulin.				*Tales From the Crypt Presents Demon Knight* (1995, Horror)				News at 11 (N)
137	763	13 TFO	Panorama		Météo	Volt	*Touchez pas au grisbi* ★★ (1954, Drame) Jean Gabin.				Expédition
-	-	14 -	Family Guy	The Office	Omni News: S. Asian Edition		Omni News: Cantonese Edition		Two/Half Men	King	Whose Sharia
213	326	15 SUN	The Insider (N)	George Lopez	Funniest Pets	Funniest Pets	Supernatural (HDTV) (N)		The Insider	Hitchcock Pres	Becker
-	387	16 CBS	Inside Edition	Hollywood	Survivor: Samoa (N)		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		The Mentalist (HDTV) (N)		News 4 at 11
-	385	17 NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Community (N)	Parks-Recreat	The Office (N)	30 Rock	The Jay Leno Show (N)		News
-	386	18 ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	FlashForward (HDTV) (N)		Grey's Anatomy (N)		(10:01) Private Practice (N)		News
219	346	20 ACH-B	TMZ (N)	Hollywood	FlashForward (HDTV) (N)		Law & Order		(10:01) Private Practice (N)		A News
-	-	28 FOX	Judge Judy (N)	MLB Baseball World Series, Game 2 -- Philadelphia Phillies at New York Yankees.						Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
-	388	61 PBS	News-Lehrer	My Hero	Doc Martin "Old Dogs"		Monarchy With David Starkey		MI-5 "The Book"		Business Rpt.
297	652	330 WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	The Vampire Diaries (N)		Supernatural (HDTV) (N)		PIX News at Ten Tong.		Two/Half Men
296	654	331 SBK	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Law & Order: SVU		WBZ News	Frasier	The Office	Name Is Earl	Frasier
298	653	332 TLA	The Tyra Show (N)		According-Jim	Family Guy	KTLA News	KTLA News	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Vamp. Diaries
news											
502	390	26 NW	Connect Today's biggest stories. (N)				CBC News: The National		The Nature of Things		National
500	500	33 CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown (N)		Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
509	504	79 CNB	Kudlow Report		Biography on CNBC		Harvard Business		How I Made My Millions		Mad Money
sports											
405	417	22 net	MLB Preview	MLB Baseball World Series, Game 2 -- Philadelphia Phillies at New York Yankees. (HDTV) (Live)							
400	400	30 TSN	NHL Hockey Ottawa Senators at Tampa Bay Lightning. (HDTV) (Live)					NHL Hockey Detroit Red Wings at Edmonton Oilers.			
411	457	58 OLN	Ghost Hunters		Dog the Bounty Hunter		Survivorman Costa Rica.		Ghost Hunters		Bounty Hunter
417	406	81 SC	Pass Time	NASCAR Hub	Pinks -- All Out (HDTV)		Jacked!	Jacked!	Wrecked	Wrecked	Pimp My Ride
family											
551	542	25 YTV	SpongeBob	Prank Patrol	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Simple Rules	What I Like	Family Biz	Prank Patrol	Adrenaline Proj
554	544	45 TEL	*Scooby-Doo & Ghoul*		6TEEN	Majority Rules	Futurama	King of the Hill	*Bram Stoker's Dracula* ★★★ (1992, Horror)		
556	540	51 FAM	Sonny Chance	Zack & Cody	Overruled! (N)	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School	Cory in House	That's-Raven
602	567	27 W	Old Christine	Friends	Friends	Grocery Bag	Confidential	Confidential	Divine Design	Divine Design	Don't Move
cable variety											
570	580	29 MM	One Tree Hill		So You Think You Can Dance Canada Top 4.				Love Court	Instant Star	One Tree Hill
615	520	31 A&E	Criminal Minds (HDTV)		The First 48 "Hard Fall"		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		Crime 360
700	800	35 TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	La Liceale Seduce i Professori				George Lopez	George Lopez	George Lopez
571	581	36 MMM	The Daily Fix		Ranked!		Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out	Cher: The Farewell Tour		The Daily Fix
575	583	38 CMT	Funniest Home Videos		Reba	Reba	According-Jim	According-Jim	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Unstable (N)
616	521	39 SHO	The Outer Limits		Da Vinci's City Hall		The Best Years (DVS)		Saving Grace (HDTV) (N)		NCIS
620	523	40 BVO	Storytellers	Camera	Bathroom Divas-Opera Star		*Poe: Last Days of the Raven* (2008, Biography)				Law & Order
601	562	41 SLC	Rich Bride, Poor Bride		X-Weighted "Jade"		X-Weighted		X-Weighted "Sarah"		ET Canada
522	506	43 HIS	Ice Road Truckers		Ancient Discoveries		Underworld Histories		Life After People (N)		Disaster
625	548	44 COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Hot Box	Jon Dore Show	Daily Show
600	564	46 H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Holmes Inspection		Renovation	Disaster DIY	House Hunters	House Hunters	Holmes
294	529	47 TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	House-Payne	House-Payne	Law & Order: SVU		*The Haunting* ★ (1999, Horror)		
576	582	49 BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live		Monica: Still	Tiny & Toya	BET Hip-Hop Awards 2009				Mo'Nique
627	528	50 SPC	Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		Star Trek: Voyager		Primeval		Eureka (N)		InnerSpace (N)
581	566	52 MTV	The City	After	Disaster Date	Disaster Date	Fantasy Fact.	Beatdown	Gone Too Far "Gary" (N)		MTV Live
618	524	54 TROP	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	The Outer Limits		ET Canada	TV Made, Do It	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld
603	561	56 FOOD	Ricardo	Road Grill	Restaurant Makeover		Big Chef Takes on Little Chef		Ace of Cakes	Ace of Cakes	Family
261	394	60 V	Murder, She Wrote		On the Buses	'Allo, 'Allo!	*The Buddy Holly Story* ★★★ (1978, Biography) Gary Busey, Don Stroud.				
621	527	63 STR	Look-A-Like	TMZ	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		The View (HDTV) (N)		The Dr. Oz Show (N)		TMZ
553	546	65 TRE	Backyardigans	Nght Grdn	Waybuloo	Franklin	Little Bear	Maggie-Beast	Babar	Zigby	Max & Ruby
115	711	101 TVA	La Fièvre de la danse (SC)		Dieu Merci (HDTV) (SC)		Le Gentleman (N) (SC)		TVA nouvelles	(10:45) Denis Lévesque	
126	730	102 RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI économie	Le National	Le Téléjournal
526	507	249 VIVA	Judging Amy		Missing Brooke and her father.		The Closer "About Face"		Da Vinci's Inquest		Psychic Inv.
300	601	301 M1	(6:40) *The Building* (2009, Drama)			Nurse Jackie	*Wendy and Lucy* ★★★ (2008, Drama)			Penn & Teller	Penn & Teller
305	612	306 PIX	(6) *The Good, The Bad, And The Ugly* (1967, Western)				*Resident Evil: Apocalypse* (2004, Horror)			*Friday the 13th Part VII*	

critics' corner

Poe: Last Days of the Raven
Brent Fidler ("First Wave") is writer, director, producer and star of this dreamy, often surreal biography of writer Edgar Allan Poe. As he lies on his deathbed, flashbacks tell the story of his life and the events — including the deaths of multiple loved ones — that shaped his writing. A sequence set in the present has an actor playing Poe onstage and discovering a psychic connnection to the man. Mackenzie Gray and Emily Tennant also star. 9 PM on BVO

The Buddy Holly Story
Gary Busey does a commendable job of impersonating the 1950s rock star in this 1978 biography, which traces Holly's association with his group, the Crickets, and their success on the charts with classic tunes such as "Peggy Sue" and "That'll Be the Day." Busey and co-stars Charles Martin Smith ("American Graffiti") and Don Stroud actually perform the music; the soundtrack won an Oscar for best adapted score. 9 PM on V

Jay-Z cleans up lyrics for Series: Source

MUSIC The lyrics to Jay-z's Empire State of Mind are sometimes as raw as New York, but it looks like the rapper will clean up that language when he performs his city anthem at the World Series.

A source close to the rapper who requested anonymity because the person was not authorized to speak on the matter says Jay-Z won't utter curses or other raw language included in his hit, which has been blasted by the New York Yankees during their playoff run.

Jay-Z and fellow New Yorker Alicia Keys are due to perform Empire before the game between the Yankees and the Philadelphia Phillies at Yankee Stadium on Thursday.

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Ghoulish grape juice

Is there an appropriate vintage to quaff with candy apples and Tootsie Rolls? Perhaps not, but Halloween-themed wines do exist. From far left, the label of a 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon from Ghost Block; and a Cabernet Sauvignon from Vampire Vineyards. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

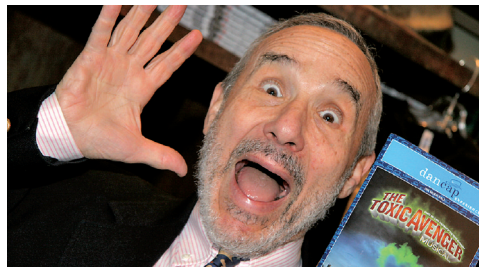
Green, gooey and radioactive

Lloyd Kaufman's musical Toxic Avenger opens on Halloween weekend

KEITH CARMAN
for Metro Canada

Lloyd Kaufman is an entertainment mogul; a cult hero thanks to staunch independence as creator, director, producer, writer and actor for his company Troma Films.

Louise Pitre and Evan Alexander Smith in The Toxic Avenger, a musical based on the cult horror film.



Lloyd Kaufman, creator of the B-film anti-hero the Toxic Avenger.

On stage

- The Toxic Avenger Musical is on until Jan. 3, 2010 at The Music Hall, 147 Danforth Ave.
- Tickets are $15 to $64 for preview performances (until Oct. 31) and $20 to $69 for regular performances. To purchase, call 416-644-3665 (toll free 1-866-950-7469) or visit ToxicAvengerToronto.com

While his career path of making low-budget, obtuse films is unusual for a Yale graduate who shared classes with the likes of Oliver Stone and George W. Bush, it is because of the 63 year-old's dedication to the layman's way of doing things and oddball ideas that he has become an institution.

His steadfast belief that anyone can be a filmmaker has heralded a bevy of films with unforgettable characters from ghost chickens to redneck zombies and rabid grannies.

One of those cogs in the Kaufman wheel, B-film anti-hero The Toxic Avenger, has found its way to the stage. As a musical, no less. Kaufman's 1982 tale of simple nerd Melvin Ferd being dumped into a vat of radioactive toxic waste by evildoers and becoming New Jersey's first superhero The Toxic Avenger has been adapted for the stage, overrunning Toronto's Danforth Music Hall this fall.

"(Troma has) been making movies for 40 years. I'm still surprised that people actually pay to see movies that we make," notes the typically-campy Kaufman.

"You can imagine how thrilled I am that something that came out of my head in 1982, something that (people) almost ripped my head off over has been made into three sequels, a cartoon show, children's toys and now a major successful award-winning musical comedy. I feel like Cinderella in a beautiful sparkly ball gown — and I love wearing women's clothes."

Spawned from his own life-long adoration for musical theatre, The Toxic Avenger Musical boasts not only a series of original rock songs performed live and a cast of Toronto-based performers but in keeping with Troma style, Kaufman notes there will be plenty of special effects which he admits are, "hilarious, witty and cutting edge without being graphic, crude and disgusting the way they are in my movie."

"The effects with Toxie himself (his transformation and look) are totally hilarious. Even though he's not the most attractive superhero, things such as disembowelling, ripping off heads and dismemberment (which in my movies have made audiences run for cover), have been transformed by Tony Award winning Director John Rando and brilliant effects master John Dods, into delightfully hilarious special effects which can please, entertain and delight audience members from ages nine to 90."

And while insiders of the B-film and horror industries are assuredly familiar with the Toxic Avenger legacy, Kaufman says a background isn't entirely necessary to enjoy this stage rendition.

A sense of humour, however, is crucial. "The musical successfully mainstreams the wonderful satire, slapstick and politics of the four Toxic Avenger movies," he says.

Underage and undead: Are some costumes too gory for kids?

DRESSING UP Halloween has morphed into a gore fest that has kids as young as six unleashing their inner monsters in ultra-violent costumes — blood-smeared chain saws and spiked killing gloves sold separately. Options include Leatherface from Texas Chainsaw Massacre, Jason (Friday the 13th), Freddy (A Nightmare on Elm Street) and Michael (Halloween). Costume sizes can run so small that many wearers might be too young to have seen the slasher movies under film industry guidelines.

Not all parents think it's OK for the holiday second only to Christmas in the minds of many kids to be more a celebration of the most deranged characters pop culture has to offer.

"Bloody, sadistic, nightmare-inducing Halloween costumes are indeed being made and marketed for kids, and no one seems to care," said Joel Schwartzberg, a parenting writer and Montclair, N.J., dad of a 10-year-old boy and twin seven-year-old girls. Schwartzberg is fighting back at too scarycostumes.com, which he hopes will raise awareness about how Halloween has strayed from "sickly sweet to just plain sick." No puritan, he said he loves a good horror flick and has even written some himself, but what's the point of all the realistic gore — for the very young, anyway?

"I think wearing these costumes and being exposed to human depravity, even in a 'fun' context, doesn't scar kids so much as desensitize them to brutal violence," Schwartzberg said. "Kids are less able to distinguish between real world and fictional brutality than grown-ups."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

From left, the Michael Myers for Kids, Boys Axe Murderer and Leatherface costumes from Zoogster Costumes.

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Spooky specials: TV offers a chilling lineup

There are plenty of chills and cheese on TV leading up to Halloween on Saturday with specially-themed episodes and macabre movie marathons.

The spooky specials include nightly broadcasts of The Simpsons's Treehouse of Horror episodes on the Comedy Network, continuing through Saturday. That's in tandem with a Halloween-themed South Park marathon continuing tonight and tomorrow night on the Comedy Network, featuring foul-mouthed episodes like Night of the Living Homeless.

Adults looking for laughs can tune into SNL Presents the Best of Halloween's Past on Global on Saturday.

Series television gets into the swing of things as well, with CTV's Ghost Whisperer and Medium both referencing horror film classics on Friday episodes. The mythical headless horseman from The Legend of Sleepy Hollow haunts Melinda on Ghost Whisperer while Medium's Allison has vivid nightmares that insert her into scenes from Night of the Living Dead.

HOUTSNEDE MAATSCHAPPIJ N.V.

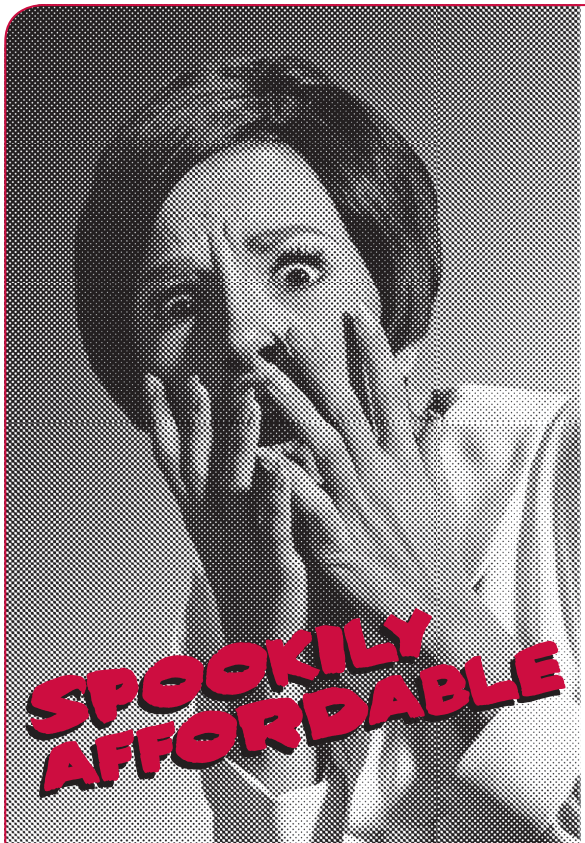
Tim Curry as Dr. Frank-n-Furter in The Rocky Horror Picture Show. CTV will air a digitally remastered version Saturday.

Tonight, the spookfest includes CTV's The Mentalist, with a ghost and haunted mansion at the heart of a murder investigation, while Ann on Citytv's Parks and Recreation struggles to pull together a Halloween party. Movies on tap include CTV's high-definition broadcast of The Rocky Horror Picture Show; the campy classic has been digitally remastered just in time for Halloween on Saturday. The outrageous 1975 musical begins as a young couple, Brad (Barry Bostwick) and Janet (Susan Sarandon) are stranded at the home of the mad scientist Dr. Frank-N-Furter (Tim Curry). A bizarre group of singing and dancing underlings get under your skin with memorable songs like Time Warp and Sweet Transvestite.

The kitschy fun is followed on CTV by The Mothman Prophecies, in which Richard Gere plays a journalist distraught by the sudden, tragic death of his wife. He finds himself mysteriously drawn to a small town where residents are beset by sightings of a creepy "moth-like" entity.

Space has the 2003 remake of Texas Chainsaw Massacre, with Jessica Biel starring as one of several friends hunted down by a deformed killer with a chainsaw. Showcase is also offering up the first two films in the torture-packed Saw series.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Rate and review recipes

Launched this fall, Cookbooker.com is the first website that allows people to rate and review the recipes in the cookbooks and food magazines they already own. Users add their books and magazines and then add all the notes and comments. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Urban Foodie

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Modern Thai gets mixed reviews

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Rating: ●●●
Dinner & drinks for 2: $50

Housed in a former brewery, Mengrai is surprisingly intimate with exposed brick walls and various nooks to tuck into.

Asking if it's our first time here, the manager gives us a tour of the place, including taking us into the bustling kitchen and introducing us to the staff. Now that's definitely a first!

The enticing menu has Chef Sasi's twist on classic dishes as well as expected favourites — curries, pad Thai and wok-fried mains. It is cluttered with reviews, comments and wine pairings so it takes us awhile to get through it.

The Golden Flowers Shrimp Appetizer ($9.95) sounds elegant and unique, but is disappointingly ordinary — shrimp and veg plopped into fried wontons. Filet Striped Bass with Tamarind Coconut ($18.95) is a wonder with a thick, creamy sauce that is alive with peppery heat. Sasi Pad Thai with Chicken & Shrimps' ($13.95) thin, delicate noodles evoke a smoky tanginess, thanks to sundried tomatoes and other non-pad Thai ingredients — interesting update.

The service is wonky — there was all that attention when we walked in, but it got sporadic throughout the night and the wait for the bill was excruciating.

Good, bad, good, bad — does that translate to another visit?

On the web

- Get recipes and more great food content at metronews.ca/recipes

STEPHANIE DICKISON/FOR METRO TORONTO

Sasi Pad Thai with Chicken and Shrimps ($13.95).

Global Peasant blog online

- Travel along with Diane Thompson's culinary adventures in her Global Peasant blog.
- Check out metronews.ca/globalpeasant for a recipe for apple pie.

Dining out

MUSICALLY-INSPIRED SANDWICHES

Chad Comfort and his wife recently opened Sky Blue Sky Sandwich Company Ltd. (605 Bloor St. W. — upper unit). Healthy sammies with homemade bread are named after Wilco songs — which play in the background. These devoted fans offer "Kingpin" (pulled pork) and "Mermaid Avenue" (salmon salad). Find like-minded folks over a bite to eat. Email your order at sbs_sandwiches@yahoo.ca or call 647-351-7945.

GET YOUR HALLOWEEN ON IN STYLE

On Saturday, Proof Vodka Bar at the InterContinental Toronto Yorkville Hotel celebrates Halloween with themed cocktails (Angelitini, Demontini anyone?) and bar nibblies such as ghoul calamari ($10), angel wings ($16), devilled meatballs ($12), and veg samosas with "hell sauce" ($9). Dance until 2 a.m. and crash at the hotel at a special rate. toronto.intercontinental.com or for reservations 416-960-5200, ext. 5834.

–STEPHANIE DICKISON

In brief

ORDER IN Want take-out or delivery but don't have any menus around? Too cold to go out? Go online with grubcanada.com , orderit.ca and just-eat.ca.

POYNT IT Search Toronto restaurants on your BlackBerry with Poynt. You can look at, map and book a reservation at restaurants across the GTA through this one application. Go to poynt.com to learn more.

–STEPHANIE DICKISON

Sex sequel like 'condensed soup': Davis
Kristin Davis thinks Sex and the City 2 is like "condensed soup." The actress — who plays Charlotte — says bosses have crammed so many dramatic plotlines into the upcoming sequel it is much more intense than the last film, femalefirst.co.uk reports. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

A touch of India on Jessica's body

NEW TATTOO Jessica Simpson has some new body art. The singer, 29, showed off a Henna tattoo Tuesday as she returned from a trip to India, where she was shooting her upcoming VH1 reality show, The Price of Beauty, usmagazine.com reports.

"The intricate Mehndi designs are typically Indian, and made with a turmeric paste," her rep tells London's Daily Mail of the singer's new ink. "They're worn at wedding ceremonies and are supposed to bring good luck to eligible single women in India. It's a big style statement too. The really intricate designs take hours to apply by hand using just a brush. The artists are very skilled."

During her trip to India, Simpson also got a bindi dot on her forehead as she hit a Bollywood party at the capital's glitzy Vie Lounge earlier this week. Simpson was a guest of Neha Dhupia, the Indian beauty ambassador on the singer's show. METRO WORLD NEWS

Kate minus Jon does not equal 'available'

SHE'S A MOM FIRST Just because she's not wearing her wedding ring much of the time anymore doesn't mean that Kate Gosselin's back on the market.

In fact, the reality-show mom says it's not going to happen while she remains the focus of so much media attention, people.com reports.

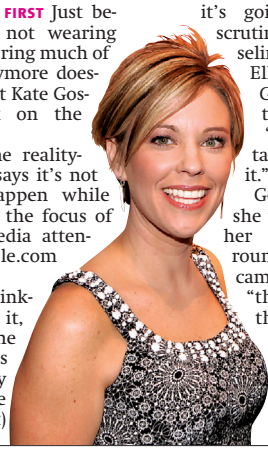
"I'm not thinking about it, but the thought has crossed my mind at some point (that) it's going to be scrutinized," Gosselin, 34, told Ellen DeGeneres yesterday.

"Let's not talk about it."

Gosselin says she tries to live her life surrounded by cameras — and "the 18 cars that follow me around" — by thinking of her eight children.

"I just know that, on TV or off TV, I've been very much targeted and torn apart," she says.

"I'm telling you (from) the root of my heart everything about me: I am a mother first. I will always be a mother and I would die for my kids if need be ... My focus is them. It's not the paparazzi. My focus is not what trip I can go on or what shows I can do as a result of this thing. This is my job. This is my paycheque and so this is what I do." METRO NEWS SERVICES



Celebrity tweets

Sandra Bernhard has got something cooking, Queen Rania Al Abdullah has some nice things to say about George Clooney, and Ashton Kutcher tries to pass on some knowledge.

• @SandraBerhnard this morning i am making split pea soup in the crock pot easy breezy and vegan, trying to mix it up and make it delicious at the same time.

• @QueenRania In customary style, Clooney politely reveals absurdity in how powers that be affect our world.

• @aplusk sometimes I think the only reason I took math is so I could help my kids take math.

'You can't break up' Brothers

ONE FOR ALL FOREVER The Jonas Brothers are battling breakup rumours, insisting that Nick Jonas is just taking a break from the band to work on a solo album due out next year. "We plan to make music together for as long as we can," the brothers told People magazine. Nick added: "We've said from the beginning of our career as the Jonas Brothers that anything we do outside of the group is a side project because you can't break up brothers." METRO WORLD NEWS

Swayze widow opens up

FIGHTING GRIEF Patrick Swayze's widow Lisa Niemi spoke from the heart recently about losing her husband just six weeks ago, telling a women's conference that the loss "is like an animal all of its own" and the sadness could be felt "on a cellular level," usmagazine.com reports.

"When the grief takes you, it's like your body is not your own," Niemi, who was married to the actor for 34 years, said during a roundtable discussion on Grief, Healing and Resilience at the Women's Conference 2009 in Long Beach, Calif. METRO WORLD NEWS

LiLo reaches out to Indian children

CHARITY TIME Lindsay Lohan is packing her bags, heading to India for charity work — and a BBC documentary. "I'm going to India soon, actually, before Thanksgiving," Lohan tells Pacific Coast News. "It's basically on the trafficking of children in ... India," she says. "I think if you're in the position where you can say something that people will listen to and make a difference ... because I know I deal with that more than most people do at this point, I think you should use it." METRO WORLD NEWS

It could have been Jo-sie

WHAT IF? Between Billy Bob Thornton and Brad Pitt, Angelina Jolie has had her fair share of interesting partners. But was Rosie O'Donnell almost part of that list?

"We talked on the phone two or three times, but that was that," O'Donnell said. METRO WORLD NEWS

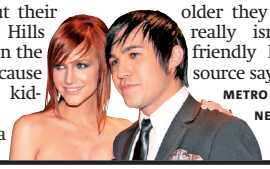
Jude, Sienna back on track?

BLAME IT ON BROADWAY With both stars working in shows on Broadway, Jude Law and Sienna Miller have found themselves in close proximity lately — and it could be leading to a rekindling of their romance.

"Sienna and Jude have met up a few times and got on really well," a source tells OK! Magazine. "Sienna had her heart broken by Jude, but she was young and it was the first time she'd fallen in love. What people don't realize is that they always remained close. METRO WORLD NEWS

In search of kid-friendly home

IN THE MARKET Pete Wentz and Ashlee Simpson are looking for a new home, as they've put their Beverly Hills mansion on the market because it isn't kid-friendly enough, a source says. "The house ... doesn't really have any yard. Now that Bronx is getting older they realized that really isn't a child-friendly house," the source says. METRO WORLD NEWS



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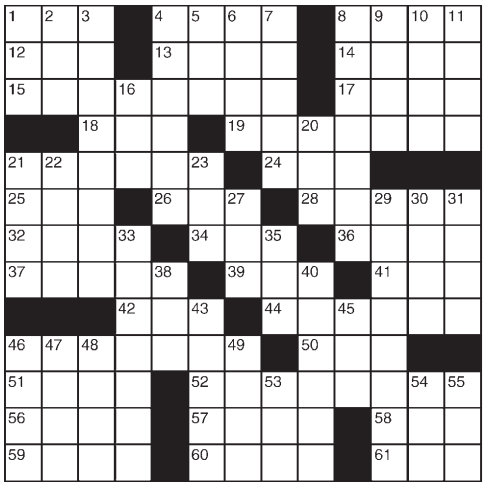

ACROSS

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46 Auto's body
50 Lubricate
51 Posterior
52 Bundle of nerves?
56 Furniture store name
57 Enthusiastic
58 Individual
59 Moist in the morn
60 Optimistic
61 Affirmative action

DOWN

1 Half the ramifications
2 Medic
3 Colt's pop
4 Take out of context?
5 Submachine gun
6 Cupid's alias
7 Aquariums
8 Random drawings?
9 "— Lang Syne"
10 Capri, e.g.
11 Luminary
16 Meadow
20 Saturn model, 2003-07
21 100 percent
22 Press
23 Work unit
27 Filch
29 Big tent at an expo
30 Similar (to)
31 Rickey ingredient
33 Calendar box
35 Payable
38 Part of FWIW
40 Weak and unsteady
43 Stogie
45 Wire measure
46 Scolded
47 Raise
48 From the top
49 Palm starch
53 Ph. bk. data
54 "Sail — Ship of State!"
55 Actor Beatty

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	2				8			
3			6	2		4	9	
7		5					6	
	9	2		8				
			2		3			
				1		2	5	
	8					6		5
	5	9		4	1			3
			7				4	

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

3	4	9	1	7	8	6	2	5
2	5	8	3	6	4	7	9	1
7	6	1	9	2	5	4	8	3
9	7	6	8	5	1	2	3	4
8	1	3	7	4	2	9	5	6
4	2	5	6	9	3	1	7	8
1	9	2	5	8	6	3	4	7
5	3	7	4	1	9	8	6	2
6	8	4	2	3	7	5	1	9

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

Metro Recipe of the Day

CHRIS SKINNER

Apricot & Rosemary Glazed Chicken

Submitted by Janice Choi, Toronto,

INGREDIENTS:

4 chicken thighs/legs, bone in and skin on, trimmed of excess fat
3/4 cup apricot jam/marmalade
2 tbsp finely chopped fresh rosemary
2 tbsp lemon juice and about 1/2 the zest from 1 lemon
1 finely chopped clove of garlic
2-3 tbsp honey (depending on sweetness of marmalade)
2 tbsp vegetable oil
1 tbsp balsamic vinegar
1 tsp salt
1/2 tsp black pepper

PREPARATION:

1. Preheat oven to 400F
2. Combine all ingredients except chicken. Microwave in a large bowl for about 1 minute, or until hot. Stir to combine flavours and allow to cool slightly.
3. Reserve about 1/3 of the mixture into another bowl.
4. Put the chicken in the large bowl with the cooled marmalade mixture. Massage and rub marinade into chicken (over and under the skin and everywhere you can get it!)
5. Line a baking pan with foil. Arrange chicken on the baking pan, removing excess marinade, if any. Bake for 15 mins. Remove from oven and glaze (in a thick layer) with set aside mixture. Bake for another 10-13 minutes or until the juices run clear, glazing at least once more.

SERVES 4
PREP TIME: 10 MINUTES
COOK TIME: 30 MINUTES

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Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Today's Venus-Jupiter aspect makes this one of the best days of the year for affairs of the heart.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Today's cosmic influences indicate that you will be turned on more by success than you are by people.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
This is one of those times when everything seems possible, when you feel that you can take on the world and win.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Let those around you know what you are willing to put up with and what you consider is going too far, and convince them you're serious.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
Don't sit at home by yourself. There is a world out there desperate to see you and hear you and be close to you.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
If you have fallen out with someone recently now is the time to make the right noises and let them know you want to stay friends.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Partners and colleagues will do whatever you ask of them today, which no doubt makes you wonder how far you can push your luck.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
You are not the sort to be intimidated by people who rant and rave and that's just as well because someone will go off the deep end today.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
You will gain more by doing less today, and if you can get other people to share your workload you may get away with doing nothing at all.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
You will get through a great deal of work today. With Saturn crossing the midheaven angle of your chart, you'll do whatever it takes to make a name for yourself.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
You know in your heart what is right and wrong and are not about to compromise your values merely to impress people in power.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
If someone whose judgment you trust offers you advice today, act on it immediately. The planets warn this is no time to be cautious.

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This day in history

1787: Mozart's opera Don Giovanni receives its first performance in Prague.
1923: Turkey becomes a republic following the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire.
1929: The New York Stock Exchange crashes in what will be called the Crash of 1929 or "Black Tuesday," ending the Great Bull Market of the 1920s and beginning the Great Depression.
1967: Montreal's World Fair, Expo 67, closes with over 50 million visitors.
1969: The first-ever computer-to-computer link is established on ARPANET, the precursor to the Internet.

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	NAME	NUMBERS		SIGNATURE	PHONE	$	PAID
1			QUICK PICK				
2			QUICK PICK				
3			QUICK PICK				
4			QUICK PICK				
5			QUICK PICK				
6			QUICK PICK				
7			QUICK PICK				
8			QUICK PICK				
9			QUICK PICK				
10			QUICK PICK				
11			QUICK PICK				
12			QUICK PICK				
13			QUICK PICK				
14			QUICK PICK				
15			QUICK PICK				

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"The Hyundai names, logos, product names, feature names, images and slogans are trade marks owned by Hyundai Auto Canada Corp., and used under licence. ♦Last year's starting price is the lease/finance starting price as of December 2008 for a 2009 Elantra L/2009 Tucson L/2009 Santa Fe 2.7L GL. Prices for models shown: 2009 Elantra Limited of $20,295/2009 Tucson Limited of $27,495/2009 Santa Fe Limited of $32,445. ¥Prices calculated after deducting price adjustments off the lease/finance starting prices. Price adjustments of $1,000/$3,500 available on a 2009 Elantra Touring L 5-speed/2010 Sonata GL 5-speed. Prices for models shown (after deducting price adjustments): 2009 Elantra Touring GL with Sport Package is $20,195/2010 Sonata Limited model shown is $30,499. ♦♦Delivery and Destination charges of $1,495 for 2009 Elantra/$1,495 for 2009 Elantra Touring/$1,765 for 2009 Tucson/$1,765 for 2009 Santa Fe/$1,565 for 2010 Sonata. Registration, insurance, license fees and all applicable taxes are excluded. Delivery and destination charge includes freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. ◊Purchase financing available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services on 2009 Elantra/2009 Elantra Touring/2009 Tucson/2009 Santa Fe/2010 Sonata models with a finance rate of 0% for 36 months (2009 Elantra/2009 Elantra Touring) or 48 months (2009 Tucson/2009 Santa Fe/2010 Sonata). Monthly payment is $27.78 per $1,000 financed. Down payment may be required. Not all buyers will qualify. Offer may be changed or withdrawn at any time without notice. See dealer for complete details. Dealer may sell for less. Inventory is limited, dealer order may be required. ΩThe Hyundai Elantra received the lowest number of problems per 100 vehicles among compact cars in the proprietary J.D. Power and Associates 2009 U.S. Initial Quality Study℠. Study based on responses from 80,930 U.S. new-vehicle owners, measuring 245 models and measures owners after 90 days of ownership. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of owners surveyed in February-May 2009. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com. †Fuel economy comparison based on combined fuel consumption rating for the 2010 Sonata GL auto (8.0ZL/100km) and 2009 EnerGuide combined fuel consumption ratings for the full size vehicle class. Fuel Consumption for 2010 Sonata GL automatic (HWY 6.2L/100km, 46 mpg; CITY 9.5L/100km, 30 mpg) is based on manufacturer testing. Actual fuel consumption may vary based on driving conditions and the condition of certain vehicle accessories. ‡You may qualify for an additional incentive ($300 in B.C.) if you turn in your 1995 model year and older vehicle and participate in the national Retire Your Ride program, funded by the Government of Canada. To qualify, your vehicle must be 1995 model year or older, in running condition and fully registered and insured in the participants province for the last 6 consecutive months (12 months in B.C.). Upon confirmation of eligibility for the Retire Your Ride program, Hyundai Auto Canada will provide an additional $300 Cash that must be applied to the purchase of a new Hyundai vehicle in the amount of $500 - 2009 Accent / $500 - 2009 Elantra sedan / $500 - 2009 Elantra Touring / $500 - 2009 Sonata / $1,000 - 2009 Tucson / $1,000 - 2009 Santa Fe / $1,000 - 2010 Sonata. Cash has no cash value. Limit one per customer. Offer may be changed or withdrawn at any time without notice. See dealer for complete details. Dealer may sell for less. Inventory is limited, dealer order may be required. Not all buyers will qualify. Offer may be changed or withdrawn at any time without notice. See dealer for complete details. ΔSee your dealer for eligible vehicles and full details of the Graduate Rebate Program. †Hyundai's Comprehensive Limited Warranty coverage covers most vehicle components against defects in workmanship under normal use and maintenance conditions for any trade-in value for your old vehicle. For more information about the Retire Your Ride Program visit www.retireyourride.ca. Some conditions apply, see dealer for details.